



Daily Report

East Asia

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Suharto-Mahathir Talks on ASEAN, APEC Viewed

*BK0508035193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
5 Aug 93 p A4*

[Article by M.G.G. Pillai: "Mahathir-Suharto talks augur well for ASEAN"]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur—When Indonesian President Suharto called on Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Sri Mahathir Mohamed last month on what was officially described as a working visit, it was to attempt, once again, to bridge the seemingly frosty personal relations between the two.

They were both shy and reserved, embarrassed with small talk, holding decided views which contradicted the other's, and slighted when the other got more attention. The presumption in Kuala Lumpur that Indonesia behaves like an elder brother, and in Jakarta that Malaysia was getting too big for her boots, did not help.

Besides, the new generation of officials and politicians in both countries ignored or misunderstood the basis of ties before them. The meeting, the fifth in 12 years, on the resort of Pulau Langkawi, 300 km north of here, resolved some of these difficulties. That the two men quickly discussed the issues at hand, putting their personal differences behind them, augurs well for future meetings. This was the hidden agenda.

But they also discussed common positions on regional issues as well. Chief among these was US President Bill Clinton's unexpected invitation for a summit of heads of government during the APEC ministerial meeting in Seattle in November. Datuk Sri Mahathir would not attend, President Suharto would like to, but not if it creates a problem within ASEAN.

President Clinton urged President Suharto, when they met in Tokyo after the G-7 Summit, to attend the Seattle meeting, and persuade Datuks Sri Mahathir to attend. But the Malaysian opposition was too strong. The Indonesian understood that, and reinforced that with their own reservations.

President Suharto felt APEC should not develop at ASEAN's expense, and appeared more disposed now to the East Asian Economic Caucus (EAEC). Both objected to plans to turn APEC into a forum for trade negotiations, as Australia and the United States would like. Indeed, apart from Singapore, where the APEC secretariat is located, no Asian country takes a keen interest in it. Raising APEC's profile now, they agreed was counter productive.

The Indonesian hostility to Malaysia's proposal for EAEC followed Datuk Sri Mahathir's inept initial handling of it. But ASEAN's acceptance, and chastened views in both capitals, removed one stumbling block. APEC's behind-the-scenes attempt to hijack itself into an organisation that almost no-one seems to want gives EAEC a new lease of life. President Suharto is more

disposed now towards it. At the ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting in Singapore, it was made an appendage to the ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting.

The two men approved several bilateral projects, and committed to the Northern economic growth triangle of northern Sumatra, northern Peninsular Malaysia and southern Thailand. A bilateral commission would consider their territorial claims along their unmarked border off Borneo Island. Contested issues were discussed frankly. The visit sets the pace for lesser friction said an Indonesian official of the talks.

Much was made of the rudimentary local organisation of the meeting: Observers read too much into the lapses; Datuk Sri Mahathir took the Kedah Mentri Besar [chief minister], Datuk Sri Osman Aroff to task for it. But the principal objective of the visit, devoid of protocol formalities, was for the two men to spend as much time together as possible: That was achieved.

The man who got them together in Pulau Langkawi is Tun Daim Zainuddin, the former Malaysian finance minister and present economic adviser to the government. The private diplomacy that enabled the meeting almost ran into trouble in the early stages, especially when the two foreign ministries were in the dark about the rumours of a possible meeting. They were quickly brought into the picture, especially to soothe ruffled feathers.

But one unfortunate lapse could have been prevented. The finance minister, Datuk Sri Anwar Ibrahim turned up unexpectedly by executive jet after midnight on Saturday for a breakfast meeting with President Suharto on Sunday, arranging it with Indonesian intermediaries. He wanted a high public profile of his ability to deal with foreign leaders, part of his unannounced plan to displace the deputy prime minister, Mr Abdul Ghafar Baba, in the party elections in November.

His two rivals for the vice-presidency—Agricultural Minister Datuk Sri Sanusi Junid and Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi—were involved in the talks, and he could not resist a chance to upstage them. The prime minister was said to be furious.

But these were minor blips in the larger picture. Relations are still not as good as it ought to be. There are too many issues on which the two countries do not see eye-to-eye. But the larger framework of bilateral and regional relations remain unscarred. ASEAN was formed in 1967 to ensure that Malaysia and Indonesia would never ever go to war again. They—like France and Germany in the European community—became the bed-rock on which ASEAN prospered.

President Suharto's fears of ASEAN dividing into Malay and non-Malay nations coincide with Datuk Sri Mahathir's fears of ASEAN being sidelined by other regional organisations. That ensures the organisation's growth. Both realise that ASEAN would not be what it is without their active participation. This is never

admitted, but Kuala Lumpur and Jakarta continue to set the pace on ASEAN's directions. That has been found wanting on occasion in the past 12 years, but the latest meeting in Langkawi sets the framework to work in concert in the years ahead. That was what the meeting in Pulau Langkawi all about. Any other agreements reached adds to that.

Indonesian-Malaysian Ties Examined

BK0308161693 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 2 Aug 93 p 27

[By Dewi Fortuna Anwar of the Center for Political and Regional Studies of the Indonesian Institute of Sciences]

[Text] Jakarta—President Suharto's three-day visit to Langkawi on July 16-18 to meet Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed has brought Indonesia-Malaysia relations into a new focus. The Langkawi summit was the first bilateral meeting between the two leaders in the past two years, though they had met each other in various multilateral gatherings within this period.

Mr. Suharto's team included the coordinating minister for politics and security, the manpower minister, and the minister for tourism and communication. The presence of these cabinet ministers reflected the major issues that were discussed at the meeting.

Among them were the dispute over the ownership of the Sipadan and Ligitan islands in the east coast of Kalimantan, the question of Indonesian workers in Malaysia, and the plan to develop the Northern Growth Triangle involving Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand. The main impetus for the bilateral summit was clearly the disagreement over Sipadan and Ligitan. Differences concerning the ownership of these two tiny islands first emerged in 1969, when Indonesia and Malaysia marked out their boundaries.

At that time, the two governments decided to shelve the disagreement so as not to endanger the newly improved ties between Jakarta and Kuala Lumpur, and as a mark of their commitment to ASEAN. The dispute over the two islands surfaced in 1991 when there were press reports that the Malaysian Government was developing the area into tourist resorts. These reports angered the Indonesian Government and led to demands that the status of the two islands be made clear.

Both the Indonesian and the Malaysian Governments have been anxious to come to agreement with each other so that this dispute does not hinder their normally close relations. On July 20, 1991, the two governments signed a Memorandum of Understanding establishing a joint committee to deal with various contentious issues in Indonesia-Malaysia relations.

The two sides are committed to solve their disagreements peacefully. It was agreed in 1991 that Indonesia and Malaysia would develop the two islands together,

but there were no agreements on the common projects to be undertaken. In the meantime, both sides have stepped up naval patrol in the area to protect their claim, adding to the tension. If reports are to be believed, minor skirmishes have already occurred in the vicinity of the two islands.

There is now an urgent need for Indonesia and Malaysia to come to a satisfactory settlement before the situation gets out of hand. Indonesia earlier indicated that it would like to take the matter to an international court. During the Langkawi meeting, however, it was agreed that the efforts to resolve the dispute would not involve outside parties, except perhaps within ASEAN.

Another contentious issue between Jakarta and Kuala Lumpur has been caused by the large influx of Indonesian workers into Malaysia. For years, large number of Indonesian workers have tried to make a better living in labour-short Malaysia. Problems emerged when many of these workers entered Malaysia illegally. The influx of these workers led to new tension between them and the local population, especially when many engaged in criminal activities.

At the same time, the unfriendly treatment that some of these workers received in Malaysia produced negative sentiments in Indonesia. Reports of abuses suffered by some workers from their employers received wide media coverage in Indonesia. Anti-Malaysian feelings ran high when an Indonesian was executed for allegedly smuggling drugs into the country.

Indonesians were also offended by some media reports and advertising in Malaysia which implied that criminals and Indonesian guest workers were synonymous. The Sipadan and Ligitan dispute and the question of Indonesian workers in Malaysia are two of the major irritations in Indonesia-Malaysia relations. Although these issues will never actually endanger the solid foundation of the bilateral ties between the two close neighbours, they do hinder the smooth running of these relations.

There were also minor irritations, such as the differences between them over the status of the East Asian Economic Caucus (EAEC) and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum. Malaysia wanted the EAEC to remain outside APEC while Indonesia wished the EAEC to exist as a caucus within APEC. This matter was finally resolved at the recent ASEAN foreign ministers meeting when both countries agreed to a compromise—that the EAEC becomes a caucus in APEC whilst being linked to the ASEAN ministers meeting.

Despite all the differences, Indonesia-Malaysia relations are generally seen as the closest within ASEAN. Disagreements between Jakarta and Kuala Lumpur attract considerable attention precisely because the two sides have been so close. Inability to come to agreements on a number of issues has led to some painful soul-searching in the two capitals as to what went wrong in their relations, and what must be done to rectify them.

Historically, ethnically, and culturally, the peoples living in this Nusantara (archipelago) had been closely related to each other. Colonisation, however, separated them into two separate states, and the politics of the early years of independence pitted Indonesia and Malaysia in a confrontation against one another. With the birth of the New Order in Indonesia, ties between Jakarta and Kuala Lumpur were normalised and the two countries became co-founders of ASEAN.

As far as Indonesia is concerned, the importance of its relations with Malaysia cannot be over-emphasised. Because it shares long borders with Malaysia, Indonesia's security and stability depends a great deal on friendly relations with that country.

The existence of a stable and peaceful environment, especially in its immediate vicinity, has enabled Indonesia to concentrate on its domestic development. Herein lies the importance of ASEAN in general and of strong Indonesia-Malaysia bilateral ties in particular.

Indonesia-Malaysia relations are also often regarded as a litmus test of the acceptability of Jakarta's policy and role in the region. Because of its confrontational policy in the past and the fact that it is the biggest country in this region, Indonesia is always sensitive about how its neighbours would perceive it. The reactions of Malaysia and Singapore, previous targets of Indonesia's confrontation, are important considerations in any of Jakarta's regional policy initiatives.

Indonesia-Malaysia relations became especially close in the post-confrontation period. The clandestine nature of the early efforts to end the confrontation no doubt contributed a great deal to the camaraderie that existed between a few top officials in the two countries. The Jakarta-Kuala Lumpur ties were regarded as special. Any problems that emerged in the bilateral relations were resolved through personal communication of the top decision-makers.

During this early period, the notion of *serumpun* [one race], of belonging to the same Malay community, was an important *raison d'être* for developing special ties between the two neighbouring states. With the passing of the older generation of leaders who had close personal ties with each other, Indonesia-Malaysia relations entered a new phase.

The new leaders in the two countries have not had the opportunity to develop their relationships with each other to the same extent as their predecessors. Relations between Jakarta and Kuala Lumpur are now carried out through the regular and formal diplomatic channels. While this situation allows a more structured bilateral relationship to develop, it cannot be denied that it lacks warmth and the personal touch.

Minor issues that emerge in the normal course of Indonesia-Malaysia relations become publicised and sometimes blown out of proportion once they are communicated through the regular channels of bureaucracy. In

former times, these issues would have been dealt with quietly through the Jakarta-Kuala Lumpur hotline.

The ethnic *serumpun* underpinning of Indonesia-Malaysia bilateral ties has also lost most of its importance. While Malaysia may still want to emphasise this aspect in the bilateral relations, Indonesia believes that stressing the Malay factor is no longer sufficient.

In Malaysia, "Malay" denotes the indigenous inhabitants, while in Indonesia the Malays constitute a small ethnic group living in the Riau islands and the east coast of Sumatra. The dominant Javanese population or other ethnic groups in the archipelago do not normally regard themselves as Malays, while the peoples living in the eastern part of Indonesia belong to a different racial group altogether. The seeming estrangement of Indonesia and Malaysia on certain issues is clearly only natural, given the differences in the national interests of the two countries.

The post-confrontation rapport that had existed among the top policy-makers of the two countries cannot be easily duplicated. Problems would emerge if both sides fail to recognise that they have grown and sometimes developed different interests from each other. Some of the problems in Indonesia-Malaysia relations have been caused by the high and probably unrealistic expectations that the two neighbours would always agree and stand up for each other. When these expectations failed to materialize, bad feelings occurred on both sides.

Indonesia and Malaysia now clearly need to put their relationship on a new footing, based more on rational interests than on emotional ties. This is not to say emotional links are not important. The existence of close personal links always contribute to a deeper and stronger relationship between states.

The development of a more rational relationship between Indonesia and Malaysia, however, would prevent these two countries from putting too much pressure on their relations, and of expecting too much from each other. Developing a more rational and balanced relationship, however, is easier said than done.

Because of their closeness and similarity, Indonesians and Malaysians have tended to compete against each other. For instance, in golf tournaments among ASEAN military officials, whenever a Indonesian is matched against a Malaysian, each side is determined to win so that the friendly nature of the game loses some of its meaning.

Indonesians and Malaysians are so similar that they tend to measure their skills against the other's. This need to win does not arise when Indonesia or Malaysia faces other ASEAN challengers. Therefore, to maintain the friendly atmosphere of these golf matches, Indonesians and Malaysians are teamed up with partners from other ASEAN countries.

In the same way, the existence of ASEAN acts as a moderating influence in Indonesia-Malaysia relations, whenever they cannot agree with each other bilaterally. For instance, at the Langkawi summit, the two countries have agreed to resolve their differences over Sipadan and Ligitan through ASEAN.

The Langkawi summit also discussed new areas of cooperation between Indonesia and Malaysia. The development of common economic interests, such as cooperating on the Growth Triangle, would provide new underpinnings for the development of stronger and deeper bilateral ties between Indonesia and Malaysia.

Japan

Hosokawa Elected Premier; Cabinet Selection Delayed

OW0608145293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1414 GMT
6 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 6 KYODO—A new era commenced in Japanese politics Friday as Japan New Party [JNP] leader Morihiro Hosokawa won nomination as prime minister, ending the Liberal Democratic Party's 38-year rule. The House of Representatives voted for Hosokawa, 55, as the nation's 50th premier at a plenary session. His selection ushered in a fresh era of coalition politics after four decades of single-party rule. Japan was briefly ruled by a socialist-led coalition in 1947-48.

Newly named lower house speaker Takako Doi declared from the podium: "This chamber decided to nominate Mr. Morihiro Hosokawa as the prime minister." The transfer of power came two weeks after the nation's voters stripped the LDP of its lower house majority in the July 18 general election.

In a 262 to 224 vote, the leader of the tiny 36-legislator party, drawing strength from the support of six other parties, defeated the 228-member LDP's candidate Yohei Kono. Japanese Communist Party Presidium Chairman Tetsuzo Fuwa placed third with 15 votes and two legislators voted for Social Democratic Party Chairman Sadao Yamahana.

In an unusual development, the House of Councillors voting preceded the lower house vote due to an uproar over a mistake in voting procedures. The upper house voted some two hours and 40 minutes before the final lower house vote. Hosokawa defeated Kono 132 to 93. Fuwa placed third with 11 votes. While lower house legislators, their names called by a secretariat staff, trekked to the podium in turn to cast ballots, the staff inadvertently skipped one page out of the prepared list of names. After newly elected house speaker Takako Doi declared the initial vote invalid due to the mistake, the session adjourned and then resumed to vote again about one hour and 50 minutes later.

Hosokawa told reporters shortly before the convening of the session that he would not be able to start work on distributing 20 cabinet posts Friday. "Because the Diet convened under this new situation, various things will happen," Hosokawa said. A standoff over Diet management between the majority noncommunist coalition and the minority LDP delayed the nomination of the new premier by one day.

Under the constitution, a new prime minister and cabinet must be attested by the emperor. The attestation ceremony will be held Monday because of Emperor Akihito's absence on a three-day visit to Brussels to attend Saturday's state funeral of Belgian King Baudouin. Under constitutional rules, the caretaker cabinet

of outgoing Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa will continue its functions until the new prime minister is invested.

Hosokawa, a former Kumamoto governor, formed his party in May last year and was elected to the lower house for the first time in this year's July 18 general election. A coalition of seven parties picked Hosokawa as its joint candidate for prime minister July 29 in a step to end the LDP monopoly on power. The seven coalition partners are the Social Democratic Party [of Japan] [SDPJ], Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party), Komeito, Sakigake (Harbinger), the Democratic Socialist Party, and the United Social Democratic Party, on top of the JNP.

The coalition agreed to enact a package of sweeping political reform bills by the end of the year. The package features a plan to introduce a new electoral system combining single-seat constituencies and proportional representation for the lower chamber, to replace the current multiseat constituency system. Both the coalition and LDP regard the multiseat constituency system as being one of the root causes of Japan's money-politics. The coalition's unified platform also called for placing a future ban on cash donations from the business community to politicians.

On the diplomatic and security policy front, the coalition vowed to ensure consistency with existing policies.

Kono, 56, served as chief cabinet secretary of the cabinet of Miyazawa, which resigned en masse Thursday after a special Diet session was convened. Kono was elected LDP president last Friday to succeed Miyazawa, who resigned as party chief to take responsibility for the party's poor showing in the election.

Many political observers predict that Hosokawa's administration will be short-lived due to large gaps in the policies and ideologies within the broad-based coalition comprising former conservative LDP rebels and socialists. LDP President Kono said there is a "dual-power structure" within the coalition, in an apparent reference to Shinseito co-leader Ichiro Ozawa, who is reportedly wielding the real power behind the scenes. Ozawa, former LDP secretary general, was a political protege of Shin Kanemaru, a former LDP power broker who is currently standing trial on tax evasion charges.

Ozawa has called for a greater role for Japan in the international community as the world's No. 2 economic power. Ozawa and former Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata formed Shinseito in June with 42 other LDP defectors.

Kono indirectly criticized Shinseito as a political force with very nationalistic ideology.

A graduate of Sophia University, Hosokawa is a scion of the feudal warlord family which once ruled Kumamoto and a grandson of wartime Prime Minister Fumimaro Konoe, who committed suicide shortly after the end of World War II. A former ASAHI SHIMBUN reporter,

Hosokawa kicked off his political career in 1971 at the age of 33 by winning a seat in the House of Councillors on the LDP ticket. Returning to his hometown in Kumamoto, he won the prefecture's governorship in 1983 and was later reelected to a second term. He chose not to seek a third term. Hosokawa successfully ran in an upper house election last year after forming his party.

Before the nomination of Hosokawa as premier, the lower chamber voted to nominate former Social Democratic Party [of Japan] Chairwoman Doi as the house speaker. She is Japan's first woman to head a Diet chamber.

Hosokawa Comments

*OW0608164393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1633 GMT
6 Aug 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 7 KYODO—Newly elected Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa early Saturday morning characterized his nomination as a new chapter of history. "My actual impression is that a chapter of history has been turned, not a (mere) page," he told reporters as he stepped into the prime minister's official residence shortly after being elected to the prime ministerial post at a plenary session of the House of Representatives. "One age, one role and one destiny have come to an end," he said in apparent reference to the 38-year Liberal Democratic Party monopoly on power. Hosokawa said, "I feel that history is moving now and I will follow divine instruction, while solemnly feeling its weight."

"I will create an administration that focuses more on the public, rather than on the concerns of nagatacho," Hosokawa said. As the district where the Diet and the offices of many powerful politicians are located, nagatacho is a metaphor for political power in Japan.

Hosokawa said he would unveil the list of cabinet ministers on Monday and then attend their attestation by Emperor Akihito at the Imperial Palace. "I will seek to live up to the mandate from the public by appointing suitable persons to suitable posts," he said. "The distribution of personnel to cabinet posts has not yet been finalized," he added.

Coalition Leaders Comment

*OW0608163393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1619 GMT
6 Aug 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 7 KYODO—Leaders of the ruling coalition parties expressed support Friday for newly elected Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa. Sadao Yamahana, chairman of the Social Democratic Party, told reporters his party will actively take part in creating a clean and fresh cabinet respecting the will of Hosokawa. Yamahana said, "I believe this new first step will greatly contribute to the realization of the political reform which the Liberal Democratic Party could not achieve, revitalizing parliamentary democracy."

Shinseito leader Tsutomu Hata said, "politics will undoubtedly change." He said he believes the coalition parties can overcome difficulties despite their differences.

Komeito Chairman Koshiro Ishida said his party will back Hosokawa and aim at forming a government trusted by the people.

Keigo Ouchi, chairman of the Democratic Socialist Party, commented that the nomination of Hosokawa was a historic moment putting period to the one-party rule of the LDP and marking the start of change.

Masayoshi Takemura, leader of Sakigake (Harbinger), said one era has ended and that of a new politics is beginning.

Coalition Leaders Reaffirm Unity of New Government

*OW0508152793 Tokyo NHK General Television
Network in Japanese 1010 GMT 5 Aug 93*

[From the "NHK News 7" program]

[Text] Upper and lower house members from eight parties, excluding the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], held a meeting this morning to reaffirm their support for the incoming coalition government. At the meeting, prime ministerial candidate Morihiro Hosokawa, head of the Japan New Party, revealed his determination:

[Begin Hosokawa recording; video shows Hosokawa speaking to a group of people in a conference room] Although the job of prime minister may be too heavy a burden for me, if you support and elect me as the new prime minister, I will try to live up to your expectations. As we said earlier, a change in government has long been a dream of the people. This dream has now become real. It is also true that the people are anxious about the untested new government. To dispel this anxiety, I ask you to make efforts to strengthen our unity. [end recording]

Prior to Hosokawa's speech, the other party leaders addressed the meeting and reaffirmed their unity.

[Begin recording] [Sadao Yamahana, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Japan] I am determined to do my best to achieve progress.

[Tsutomu Hata, head of Shinseito, the Japan Renewal Party] Some people are looking forward to the day when the coalition government collapses. We should work to make such speculation irrelevant and live up to people's expectations.

[Komeito Chairman Koshiro Ishida] This is going to be a historic change in Japanese politics. Welcoming this new era, we should overcome our differences and work together to lead the new government to success.

[Keigo Ouchi, chairman of the Democratic Socialist Party] The new coalition government must do things that the LDP-led government failed to do. It is certain that the starting point for change is political reform.

[Masayoshi Takemura, head of Sakigake, the Harbinger party] I think people have always hoped that the political scenes broadcast on television would be changed. We are now living up to this expectation. The new scenes are a symbol of change.

[Satsuki Eda, leader of the United Social Democratic Party] I think there will be ups and downs from now on; however, while maintaining the feeling that we have now, we should work together with people to make successful the change of government based on democracy. [end recording]

Former SDPJ Chairwoman Takako Doi, who is a candidate for lower house speaker, also addressed the meeting.

[Begin Doi recording] Japan's future course will not be easy. There will be many obstacles to overcome, but I will make great efforts to reconstruct the Diet and the House of Representatives so they will be able to restore public trust in politics. [end recording]

SDPJ's Takako Doi Elected Lower House Speaker

*OW0608095793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0951 GMT
6 Aug 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 6 KYODO—Former Social Democratic Party [of Japan] (SDP) [SDPJ] Chairwoman Takako Doi won the post of House of Representatives speaker Friday, becoming Japan's first woman to head the Diet. Doi, 64, garnered 264 votes to be elected to the post with the backing of the majority seven-party coalition as a total of 503 lower house members cast their votes at a plenary session. Two votes were invalid. Doi beat Seisuke Okuno, a candidate from the minority Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and a former justice minister, and Kenjiro Yamahara, candidate from the Japanese Communist Party. Okuno received 222 votes, while Yamahara got 15.

Doi's election was delayed one day after a special Diet session was convened because the LDP demanded that one of its members be appointed speaker in accordance with Diet custom because it is still the largest single party in the lower chamber. The post had been held by the LDP since the party was founded in 1955. The SDPJ has held the post of vice speaker since 1976.

On Tuesday, Doi accepted calls from the seven-party coalition to run as a candidate for the lower house speaker position after mulling the matter for five days. The former constitutional scholar said she decided to accept "to prevent democracy from collapsing." Doi, a staunch supporter of the constitution's Article 9 which bars the use of force to resolve international disputes, was SDPJ chairwoman from 1986 to 1991—the first

Japanese woman to head a political party. The SDPJ suffered a big setback in the July 18 general election, losing almost half of its preelection strength and dropping to 70 seats in the lower house.

LDP member Hyosuke Kujiraoka, a former Environment Agency chief, was elected vice speaker. He received 477 votes out of a total of 506 cast, with 29 votes invalid.

After her election, Doi made a speech and vowed to do her utmost to manage the Diet in a fair manner. She said various reforms of the Diet should be carried out to meet the public trust, pointing out that the role of the Diet, the highest organ of state power, is becoming much bigger as Japan and the world stand at a great turning point.

Kujiraoka said he is honored to be elected vice speaker and that he will do his best to see that Diet sessions go smoothly.

Takemura Named Chief Cabinet Secretary

*OW0608162593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1611 GMT
6 Aug 93*

[Excerpts] Tokyo, Aug. 7 KYODO—Newly elected Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa early Saturday morning asked Masayoshi Takemura, his ally and leader of the Sakigake (Harbinger) Party, to assume the post of chief cabinet secretary, aides to Hosokawa said. Takemaru accepted the offer.

Hosokawa, leader of the Japan New Party, who was nominated as the first prime minister from outside the Liberal Democratic Party in 38 years in a House of Representatives plenary session Friday night, will meet leaders of other coalition partners—the Social Democratic Party (SDP), Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party], Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP)—to discuss the formation of his cabinet at 1 p.m. [0400 GMT] Saturday, party officials said. DSP Secretary General Takashi Yonezawa told reporters the actual formation of the cabinet will take place Monday. [passage omitted]

SDP Chairman Sadao Yamahana [is likely to be appointed] as trade minister, Komeito Chairman Koshiro Ishida construction minister, and DSP Chairman Keigo Ouchi health and welfare minister, political sources said. Hosokawa is considering the appointment of non-politicians to the posts of justice minister and education minister, they said. Yoko Naita, former head of the National Women's Education Center, has been tipped as education minister.

Lower House Sets 10-Day Period for Special Session

*OW0608115393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1130 GMT
6 Aug 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 6 KYODO—The House of Representatives voted Friday to set the tenure of the ongoing

special Diet session at 10 days, overriding opposition from the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and Japanese Communist Party (JCP). The special Diet session convened Thursday and will end August 14.

The voting took place shortly after the lower chamber elected former Social Democratic Party Chairwoman Takako Doi as the House speaker. The stand-up vote on the length of the session took place under the supervision of Doi, who ascended the speaker's podium for the first time minutes before the voting took place.

Two legislators, one from the LDP and one from the JCP, addressed the House before the vote, demanding that Japan New Party leader Morihiro Hosokawa, assured of becoming prime minister later in the session, deliver a policy speech to clarify the policy goals of the new seven-party coalition government. LDP legislator Seishiro Eto demanded that the Diet set a three-week tenure for the session. He also urged Hosokawa to explain in the policy speech his earlier policy proposals to cut tax and the official discount rate. JCP legislator Mitsuo Higashinaka pressed the coalition to explain how the new administration would "change politics" despite the coalitions's assurances that it will take over existing security policy and diplomacy.

Emperor Leaves for Europe; To Attest Cabinet 9 Aug

OW0608063493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0626 GMT 6 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 6 KYODO—Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko left for Belgium on Friday to attend the state funeral of King Baudouin. The funeral of the king, who died July 31, will be held at a church in Brussels on Saturday. It will be the first time for a Japanese emperor to attend the funeral of a monarch overseas, Imperial Household Agency officials said. Crown Prince Naruhito will perform the emperor's official duties during his four-day absence, the officials said.

King Baudouin, 62, was Europe's longest-reigning monarch, having spent 42 years on the throne. He died of a heart attack while on holiday in Spain. Emperor Akihito and King Baudouin had kept a close relationship since they first met in Britain in 1953 at the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, the officials said. The emperor was crown prince at the time. King Baudouin attended the funeral of Emperor Hirohito, posthumously named Emperor Showa, in early 1989, and the coronation of Emperor Akihito in 1990.

The emperor and empress will return home Monday, the officials said. After returning home, Emperor Akihito will attest Japan's next prime minister and government at a ceremony in the imperial palace. The new prime minister to be elected by the Diet is expected to be Morihiro Hosokawa, leader of a planned seven-party coalition government.

Tokyo To Lower Differential Tariff on Pork Imports

OW0608095393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0944 GMT 6 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 6 KYODO—The Agricultural Ministry plans to lower the differential tariff on pork imports to 4.25 percent from the present 5.0 percent under the Uruguay Round of world trade negotiations, ministry officials said Friday. The officials said the decision by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries is in line with a proposal by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade for a 15 percent tariff cut from the 1986 level.

Japan has levied a 5.0 percent tariff when prices of imported pork climb above the standard level of 680 yen per kilogram set by the government in 1986. The officials said both the standard price and the tariff rate will be cut by 15 percent. The tariff system has been the target of criticism from the United States and west European countries as a non-tariff barrier.

Farm Ministry Asks Traders To Curb Beef Imports

OW0608124293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1156 GMT 6 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 6 KYODO—The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries asked 34 trading houses on Friday to curb beef imports to deal with a glut in domestic supply in a move that may violate a Japan-U.S. trade agreement. The unusual request reflects a sharp increase in beef imports and a resulting falloff in domestic beef prices that has dealt a severe blow to domestic farmers, ministry and industry sources said. "This is because of imports that ignore domestic demand," one ministry source said in reference to the request, which was made by a senior ministry official in a meeting with representatives of the trading houses at a Tokyo hotel.

In grappling with the price fallout, the ministry also called on the United States and Australia, two major beef exporters to Japan, to "take some action to keep their exports orderly," the sources said. Despite high tariffs, Japan imported more beef than it produced in fiscal 1992 that ended March 31, just two years after it abolished import quotas in exchange for higher tariffs. In fiscal 1992, beef imports rose 29.5 percent to 423,000 tons, surpassing the domestic production of 407,000 tons for the first time. The trend continued into fiscal 1993, with imports up 29.1 percent to 158,000 tons in the April-June quarter.

Under a 1988 agreement with the U.S. on beef and citrus trade, Japan eliminated beef import quotas in April 1991 in favor of a 70 percent tariff. The tariff rate since has been cut twice under the accord, resulting in a 50 percent tariff from April 1 this year.

Hiroko Mizuhara, chief of the Consumers Union of Japan, criticized the ministry's move for running

counter to the market-opening agreement. "The ministry should have known that beef imports would grow sharply before Japan opened the beef market. I would like ask them why they opened the market," she said. "Even if such a request is made, it will not be at all binding. I believe trading houses will not accept it," Mizuhara said.

Ministry Wants 2-Percent Spending Growth Limit
OW0608102093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1015 GMT 6 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 6 KYODO—The Finance Ministry is seeking to hold fiscal 1994 general expenditure to 41 trillion yen or an annual growth of 2 percent in the wake of tight government fiscal conditions, ministry sources said Friday. The sources said the ministry plans to send the message to other ministries and agencies as soon as the new cabinet comes into being and hopes for cabinet approval next Friday.

General expenditure, which accounts for about 60 percent of the general account, was boosted by 4.8 percent from the year before in the current fiscal year after a growth of 5.2 percent in fiscal 1992. The pared budget plan anticipates a 10 percent reduction in ordinary expenditures compared with the original fiscal 1993 budget, but an increase of 5 percent in investments like public works aimed at stimulating the sluggish economy.

The Japanese Government posted a 1.55 trillion yen revenue shortfall in fiscal 1992, largely due to the recession. The deficit was covered by a special reserve, but the funds must be returned to the reserve in the fiscal 1994 budget. The balance of government bonds outstanding is expected to reach 182 trillion yen by the end of fiscal 1993. The cost of interest payments already accounts for more than 20 percent of general expenditure. The ministry is also planning to drop special allowances aimed at improving living conditions, hold growth in defense spending to zero and keep foreign aid to less than 6 percent.

Hokkaido Governor Visits Disputed Northern Islands

OW0608132793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1235 GMT 6 Aug 93

[Text] Kunashiri, Aug. 6 KYODO—Takahiro Yokomichi on Friday became the first governor of Hokkaido in 52 years to visit disputed northern islands when he arrived in the port city of Furukamappu with the latest delegation of visa-free visitors from Hokkaido.

A Hokkaido leader last visited the Etorofu Island—one of the four disputed islands—in 1941, when the islands off the eastern tip of Hokkaido were still under Japanese control. Soviet troops overran Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan and the Habomais in the closing days of World War II and Moscow has maintained that the islands and their rich resources are part of the Kurile Island chain

and belonged to the Soviet Union and now Russia. Tokyo, on the other hand, has argued the islands, which it calls the "Northern Territories" are unquestionably part of its sovereign territory and has refused to provide substantial official aid to Moscow until the question is resolved.

On Friday, the head of the South Kurile Parliament M.I. Tereshko greeted Yokomichi and the charter vessel from Hokkaido when it arrived at Furukamappu port. Some 300 residents of the port city turned out to greet the vessel and assembly Deputy Chairman I.V. Barkasin said he looked forward to the deepening of amity between the two northern Pacific islands. The 23 members of the Hokkaido delegation were divided into 10 groups and will spend their time with Kunashiri home-stay families.

North Korea

Daily Notes Position on Negotiations With IAEA
SK0508115893 Pyongyang Radio Pyongyang in Korean to South Korea 0030 GMT 2 Aug 93

[NODONG SINMUN 2 August commentary: "Each Side's Sincere Effort Is Necessary"]

[Text] The result of the second round of DPRK-U.S. talks is having great repercussions with each passing day. The broad international public opinion, which hopes for the fundamental resolution of the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula, is expressing its support and welcomes it.

As it was already reported, principles in resolving the nuclear issue and pending issues between the DPRK and the United States were presented in the New York talks. The Geneva talks were held to arrange practical measures to implement them.

As in the New York talks, the Geneva talks were not about who will profit, who will suffer damage, and who will make concessions. They were talks in which discussions on the main issues were held from an equal position [pyongdungchok ipchang]. Thus, the talks were progressive and productive [chomjinhokigo saengsan-jok]. The talks showed that the issue cannot be resolved through pressure, and that the best way to resolve it is through negotiations.

The issues discussed at the talks were worth welcoming and a series of views agreed upon were encouraging.

The reason the nuclear issue came up on the Korean peninsula was that the United States brought nuclear weapons to South Korea and persistently threatened us. Therefore, the fundamental resolution of the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula cannot be achieved unless the United States performs the duties it is faced with.

In the Geneva talks, the United States reconfirmed its promise that it will not use nuclear weapons and will not

carry out nuclear threats on us. This emphasized to the people at home and abroad the primary duty the United States has in fundamentally resolving the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula.

The International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] is responsible for the complicated nuclear issue existing today on the Korean peninsula. The IAEA discarded fairness [kongjongsong], which is the basis of its activities, accommodated the big power, and unjustly tried to force special inspections on us. Some countries joined forces here.

To safeguard the nation's dignity and the country's sovereign right, it was inevitable for us to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

In the Geneva talks we expressed the will to start negotiations with the IAEA. We decided to start negotiations with the IAEA not to discuss the issue of special inspections, which it has been insisting on, but to correct the IAEA's unfairness [pulkongjongsong]. Therefore, how negotiations will progress in the negotiations between the IAEA and us will depend on whether the IAEA has the will to recognize its unfairness and correct it. This is our position on how we plan to approach the negotiations with the IAEA.

We have no intention of producing nuclear weapons. This was once again clearly proven in the Geneva talks. In the talks we brought up the introduction of the light water moderated reactors. Plutonium, necessary in manufacturing nuclear weapons, cannot be produced with light water moderated reactors. Therefore, the purity and transparency [kyolbaeksongkwa tumyongsong] of our peaceful nuclear policy was wholly manifested. No one is now able to say that we are trying to produce nuclear weapons.

It is useless to make agreements or promises alone in the talks. The problem is that each one should correctly carry out each one's duty. The United States must put into practice the work that it must fulfill such as making legal guarantees on the nonuse of nuclear weapons, guaranteeing that it will not dispatch nuclear weapons into South Korea, and putting an end to the Team Spirit joint military exercise. Also, as long as it expressed the will to introduce light water moderated reactors, the United States must not make such and such excuses or put forth unjust preconditions, but turn its attention to accomplishing it.

The IAEA should return to the principle of fairness. We once again elucidated in the Geneva talks our consistent position that to resolve issues between the two sides, including the nuclear issue, the North and South must carry out a dialogue. A top priority and the most important factor in advancing North-South dialogue is to realize the exchange of special envoys for the summit talks.

When the exchange of special envoys leads to the summit talks, a series of issues, including the issue of implementing the North-South Joint Declaration on Denuclearization, can be resolved in accordance with the common interest of the nation.

We are keeping in mind [yuuihanda] the fact that the United States expressed its understanding and support of our proposal for the exchange of special envoys for the summit talks.

The South Korean authorities are insisting on working-level contacts to discuss secondary [puchachokin munje] issues while ignoring our proposal for the exchange of special envoys. This makes us doubt whether they truly have the will to resolve issues between the North and South through dialogue.

The common interest of the nation should be regarded as the most important interest among all interests. The world is currently supporting the North-South dialogue. It entirely depends on the South side's attitude on whether the North-South dialogue can be carried out successfully. We will closely observe the South side's attitude.

Acts such as picking a fight with someone, doubting someone, and disgracing someone are very harmful and it will only complicate the situation.

Whether the fundamental resolution of the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula can be carried out depends on how sincerely the parties concerned make efforts.

Moreover, it is clear that whether the third round of DPRK-U.S. talks will be successful is greatly dependent on the attitude of the United States. As in the past, we will make sincere efforts to resolve the nuclear issue through negotiations.

Group Blocked From Attending Pannational Rally

Issues Statement in Panmunjom

*SK0608004193 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1210 GMT 5 Aug 93*

["Statement" by the working-level delegation of the North side's Headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification [Pomminnyon] in Panmunjom on 5 August—read by announcer]

[Text] The working-level delegation of the North side's headquarters of Pomminnyon arrived in Panmunjom today to go to Seoul to attend tripartite working-level talks of the delegations of the North, the South, and overseas to prepare for the Fourth Pannational Rally proposed by the South Korean officials of Pomminnyon.

It is a unanimous demand of all fellow countrymen, who want to see the Fourth Pannational Rally as a common national festival for reunification, to successfully hold the tripartite working-level talks which are scheduled to be held in Seoul on 6 August.

Therefore, Pomminnyon's North side headquarters, upon hearing the report on the proposal of the South Korean officials of Pomminnyon for holding tripartite working-level talks in Seoul, held a presidium meeting and expressed the full support for the proposal. On 3 August, our side's relevant organization sent a telephone message to the South side's authorities and urged them to urgently take responsible steps for guaranteeing our working-level delegation's passage through Panmunjom and personal safety.

If the South Korean authorities want national reconciliation, harmony, and reunification, even slightly, they should have guaranteed all conveniences for our working-level delegation so that it could safely attend the tripartite working-level talks in Seoul.

Nevertheless, the South Korean authorities obstructed the southward road of our working-level delegation, which is going to attend the tripartite working-level talks in Seoul [seoul samja silmu hoedame chamga haryonun uri silmu taepyodanui namhaeng kilrul karomakta], without any justifiable reason and condition, just like the military dictators of the former fascist Sixth Republic.

Our working-level delegation could not go to Seoul where the tripartite working-level talks are scheduled to be held. The South side's authorities should be held accountable for this.

With all fellow countrymen, we sternly denounce the South Korean authorities who profess themselves to be a civilian government.

The Fourth Pannational Rally, which is being promoted amid the entire fellow countrymen's great expectation and concern, should be grandly held as a national reunification festival in which the delegates from the North, South, and overseas participate. None should conduct such an activity of preventing the pannational rally.

Even though the tripartite working-level talks will not be realized on 6 August, the North side's Pomminnyon headquarters and our working-level delegation will make every effort to realize the tripartite working-level talks maintaining close relations with the South side's Pomminnyon officials. They will grandly hold the hard-won Fourth Pannational Rally which will be a great festival for national unity.

We take this opportunity to strongly urge that the South side's authorities should look directly at the demand of the times and the fellow countrymen's unanimous desire for reunification. They should immediately stop the unjust act of preventing the Fourth Pannational Rally without any condition.

Our working-level delegation of the North side's Pomminnyon headquarters will constantly watch the attitude of the South side's authorities, with all fellow countrymen at home and abroad who desire the successful holding of the Fourth Pannational Rally.

South Berated for Not Meeting Group

*SK0508235293 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 5 Aug 93*

[Text] A working-level delegation of our side's headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification [Pomminnyon] arrived at Panmunjom this afternoon to participate in the tripartite working-level talks of the North, the South, and overseas for the Fourth Pannational Rally to be held on 6 August. However, because of the unjust South Korean authorities' obstruction maneuvers, they failed to go to Seoul.

As already reported, the South Korean officials of Pomminnyon held a meeting to promote the Pannational Rally on 30 July and proposed to hold tripartite working-level talks of the North, the South, and overseas in Seoul on 6 August to ensure the rally with success.

The South side's proposal is a patriotic proposal reflecting the aspirations of 70 million fellow countrymen to open the bright prospect for national reunification at an early date by grandly holding the Fourth Pannational Rally as a common festival of the nation for reunification with fellow countrymen at home and abroad sitting together.

Actively responding to the South side's proposal for tripartite talks, the North side's headquarters of Pomminnyon worked out the step to send three working-level delegates to Seoul on 31 July. In addition, the chairman of the North side's headquarters of Pomminnyon requested the South Korean authorities' cooperation required for guaranteeing our delegation's passage through Panmunjom and personal safety.

Our side's working-level delegation departed Pyongyang this morning amid a warm farewell by the citizens of the capital and arrived at Panmunjom at 1300 [0400 GMT] this afternoon after having keenly sensed the ardent desire of our people for reunification in many places along the 500-ri [200 km] road, including the citizens of Kaesong, a city in the area on the (?demarcation) line.

However, the South side's officials of Pomminnyon, who should have deservedly greeted our working-level delegation, did not show up and only armed guards were hanging about in the South side area. Thus, the atmosphere in Panmunjom was awe-inspiring.

Through our side's liaison officials in the North-South Liaison Office in Panmunjom, our side's working-level delegation informed the South side of the arrival of the delegation in Panmunjom on the way to Seoul, and requested the South side to urgently reply to the telephone message of the chairman of the North side's preparatory committee for the Pannational Rally addressed to the South Korean unification minister.

The South side's liaison official notified our side's liaison official that the South side has no plan to convey the memorandum of our working-level delegation's personal security to our side. When our side's liaison official

asked him if the South Korean authorities object to our side's working-level delegates going to Seoul, the South side's liaison official avoided giving an answer, saying that he did not know.

Our side's liaison official claimed that such a response cannot be an official answer to our telephone message. Our side's liaison official asked him why on earth does your side not allow the three delegates to go to Seoul. Our side's liaison official asked him what on earth is different between the current civilian-controlled regime and the past regime.

The South side's liaison official avoided giving an answer. He said that this is Seoul's position.

Even though they are babbling about civilian-controlled politics, the South Korean authorities show, through this incident, that they are the same splittist group as the Fifth and Sixth Republics which had maintained the national division at the point of bayonets. They do not differ from their preceding dictators in preventing national reconciliation and peaceful reunification of the country.

On the spot, our side's working-level delegation issued a statement denouncing the South Korean authorities' unjust actions.

South Denounced for Stopping Group

SK0508230893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2219 GMT 5 Aug 93

["S. Korean Authorities Hinder North Side's Delegation From Going to Seoul for Tripartite Talks"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Panmunjom, August 5 (KCNA)—The delegation of the North side headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) to tripartite working-level talks of the North, South, and overseas scheduled in Seoul for August 6 nor the preparation of the Fourth Pannational Rally [PNR] arrived in Panmunjom this afternoon. But it could not go to Seoul due to the unreasonable obstructions on the part of the South Korean authorities.

The North side's delegates who left Pyongyang this morning, seen off by people in the capital, arrived here at 1 PM, feeling the ardent desire of the people in Kaesong, a city adjacent to the Military Demarcation Line, and all other people in the North on the 200 kilometres long route.

However, a tense atmosphere prevailed in Panmunjom. No South side's officials of Pomminnyon were to be seen in the portion of the South side except armed guards.

The delegation, through the North side's officials of the North-South Liaison Office at Panmunjom, informed the South side of its arrival in Panmunjom and urged an immediate reply to the telephone message sent by the chairman of the North side preparatory committee for

the fourth PNR to the South Korean "minister of unification board" Wednesday.

After a while, a liaison officer of the South side told the North side that they "had no plan to deliver a note of guaranteeing personal safety of the delegation to the North side."

When the liaison official of our side questioned him if the authorities did not allow our working delegates' going to Seoul, the liaison officer of the South side avoided an answer, simply saying "don't know."

Then the liaison official of our side stated that mere words "I don't know" could not be a formal answer to our telephone message. He also questioned the South whether there was any difference between the present "civilian government" and the previous "regime" if the door was closed, afraid of the coming of three delegates.

The liaison officer of the South side again avoided an answer, mumbling he could not do anything as it was the position of Seoul.

This fact proves that for all advertisements about the "civilian government" the South Korean authorities are a group of separatists little different from the "fifth and sixth republics" which prolonged the division of the nation with the bayonet, and from the preceding dictators in blocking the national reconciliation and the peaceful reunification of the country.

The action taken by the South Korean authorities to block our delegation from participating in the tripartite working-level talks is an anti-national, anti-reunification criminal one going against the desire of the nation for reunification.

Upon hearing the news that the tripartite working-level talks of the North, the South and overseas scheduled in Seoul could not take place owing to the unreasonable act of the South Korean authorities, the entire fellow countrymen are unable to repress a bitter indignation and are firmly determined to realize at any cost the Fourth Pannational Rally in close unity with the South side and reunification patriotic forces overseas.

Commentary Berates ROK Decision

SK0608022493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0020 GMT 6 Aug 93

[NODONG SINMUN 6 August commentary: "No One Can Prevent Fellow Countrymen's Grand March for Reunification"]

[Text] Today all fellow countrymen in the North, South, and abroad ardently expect a new phase to be created for the great national unity and national reunification movement as a result of the successful holding of the 4th Pannational Rally on the occasion of the 48th anniversary of the liberation day of the fatherland.

At this juncture, the South side's relevant officials of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification [Pomminnyon] proposed to hold the tripartite working-level meeting—attended by representatives of the North, South, and abroad—in Seoul on 6 August to successfully prepare for the pannational rally. In a positive response to this, our side sent its delegates to Panmunjom on 5 August. Out of a patriotic desire to create a turning point for the national unity and national reunification, all fellow countrymen try to open the Fourth Pannational Rally which is on the order of day as a significant and grand festival of national unity.

Nevertheless, the South Korean authorities have formulated a policy of prohibiting the pannational rally from being held, saying that the rally runs counter to spirit of the North-South agreement that provides the recognition of systems, and that prohibits the North and South from libeling and slandering each other. They also said that they cannot even allow the Seoul tripartite working-level meeting.

Because of such a step taken by the South Korean authorities, the delegates from our side who went to Panmunjom to attend the Seoul tripartite working-level meeting could no longer move forward. The mean step taken by the South Korean authorities, who had blocked the working-level delegates' way to Seoul, is an anti-reunification criminal act of running counter to the aspiration and will of 70 million fellow countrymen who want to achieve the national reunification as a result of the national reconciliation and unity.

As is well-known to the world, Pomminnyon is not an organization that unilaterally opposes one side, nor a body that follows a system and ideology of the other side, standing on the side of one side, either the North or the South.

In view of the nature and mission of Pomminnyon, it is as clear as the light that the pannational rally cannot be an event of sympathizing with a certain party nor will it be a rally obstructing national unity and the creation of an atmosphere favorable to reunification. This has been clearly proven by three rounds of rallies held in the past.

All facts show that the pannational rally is not an event going counter to the spirit of the North-South agreement as the South Korean authorities babbled but is a venue of national reconciliation and unity and a plaza of broad range of dialogue for reunification.

Nevertheless, the South Korean authorities, regarding the pannational rally as illegal, obstructed our working-level delegation's road toward Seoul. Thus, they revealed to the entire world their dark intention to totally deny the basic spirit of the North-South agreement which pledged reconciliation, nonaggression, cooperation, and exchanges between the North and the South. They also showed their true color as an antinational and antireunification group which is afraid of national reconciliation and unity and which does not want the reunification.

A number of nations guarantee Pomminnyon's activities. Thus, obstructing its activities in one's own country and own land, regarding these activities as illegal, is an act which should be tolerated by no means.

Our fellow countrymen tried to hold the pannational rally many times in Seoul as a common national festival. However, we failed to achieve our intention owing to oppressive politics of the Sixth Republic's military dictators, thus inflicting a wound on us. Witnessing such a painful act being repeated by the incumbent South Korean ruling forces who are advocating civilian politics, we cannot suppress lamentation and indignation.

Great national unity is the firm will of 70 million fellow countrymen and a demand of the time. The Fourth Pannational Rally should be held as a common national festival for reunification. No one should block this rally.

The South Korean authorities should discard erroneous idea to monopolize the reunification issue and should stop antireunification oppressive maneuvers. They should legalize the reunification movement by Pomminnyon which has been officially recognized at home and abroad. They should open the way for fellow countrymen in the North, the South and overseas to advance toward the Fourth Pannational Rally.

If the South Korean authorities block to the end the road of fellow countrymen in the North, the South and overseas for the successful holding of the Fourth Pannational Rally, they will be branded as an antireunification group going against the national aspiration and the trend of the time, and will be cursed and denounced by all fellow countrymen.

All fellow countrymen in the North, the South, and overseas should repel obstruction maneuvers by the splittist forces with united strength. They should successfully hold the Fourth Pannational Rally and other grand reunification events. Thus, we should demonstrate the might of national unity and open a new phase in national reunification.

March to Unity 'Cannot Be Blocked'

*SK0608053893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0456
GMT 6 Aug 93*

[“Grand National March Toward Reunification Cannot Be Blocked”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 6 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities blocked the working delegation of the North side headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) from making a trip to Seoul to participate in the tripartite working-level talks of the North, South and overseas for the preparation of the Fourth Pannational Rally. NODONG SINMUN today brands this as another unpardonable anti-reunification crime going against the desire and will of the 70 million Koreans to reunify the country through national harmony and unity.

The news analyst says:

The activities of Pomminnyon are ensured in many countries of the world, but Pomminnyon is branded as illegal and its activities are banned in South Korea, its own land. This is intolerable.

Great national unity is the unshakable will of the 70 million Koreans and the requirement of the times. The Fourth Pannational Rally must be held as a grand common festival of the nation for reunification and no one must check it.

The South Korean authorities must get rid of the wrong idea of monopolizing the reunification question, stop the anti-reunification repressive campaign, legalize the reunification movement of Pomminnyon recognised at home and abroad and open the way for the Fourth Pannational Rally to the compatriots in North, South and overseas. If they persistently block the way, they will be cursed and denounced by the entire Koreans as an anti-reunification group going against the desire of the nation and the trend of the times.

KCNA Reports ROK Army Military Activity at DMZ

*SK0608050993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429
GMT 6 Aug 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, August 6 (KCNA)—Artillery groups of the South Korean puppet army deployed in Cholwon-up, Yulli-ri and Sangsa-ri, Chorwon County, South Korean Kangwon Province, on August 3, and those which took positions in Chungsa-ri, Yonchon County, and Kogok-ri, Paju County, Kyonggi Province, on the 4th fired more than 130 shells of 105 mm guns at the demilitarized zone (DMZ) of the Military Demarcation Line [MDL], according to military sources.

On the 4th, a heavy tank group of the puppet army moved toward the DMZ from Kumpa-ri, Paju County, intensively firing tens of shells.

Puppet army soldiers fired more than 1,100 bullets of 12.7 mm machine guns at points near the DMZ on the 3rd.

Meanwhile, formations of helicopter gunships belonging to the puppet army staged on the 4th a surprise strike exercise against the North in the skies above Chomwon-ri and Paengnyon-ri, Paju County and above Mt. Yawol north of Majon-ri, Yonchon County.

The reckless war gamble of the South Korean puppets is a premeditated provocation aimed at intentionally aggravating the situation in the area along the MDL and fostering North-South confrontation.

Dailies Urge Japan's Removal of 'Nuclear Threat'

*SK0608052893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0501
GMT 6 Aug 93*

[“Nuclear Threat Must Be Removed for Good”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 6 (KCNA)—Papers here today call for the permanent removal of nuclear threat in their commentaries on the 48th anniversary of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki tragedies.

A NODONG SINMUN analyst says:

Humanity has not yet been freed from nuclear threat, although it is nearly half a century since the Hiroshima and Nagasaki tragedies. This is due to the nuclear war moves of the imperialists.

The imperialists are wielding nuclear weapons against progressive countries, regarding them as almighty in executing their policy of domination and plunder.

Threat of nuclear war cannot be dispelled as long as there remain nuclear weapons. It is necessary to ban the test, manufacture, deployment and use of nuclear weapons, reduce the existing stockpiles and eventually destroy all of them.

What is important in removing the danger of nuclear war is to check the appearance of a new nuclear power. It is imperative to block Japan's conversion into a nuclear power.

Japan is the only A-bomb victim, so it must take the lead in finally abolishing nuclear weapons and removing nuclear threat.

The peaceloving people of the world must pool their efforts to check and foil the imperialist moves for nuclear war and vigorously wage the movement for establishing nuclear-free zones so that a durable peace can settle down on the globe.

This is the only way of preventing the recurrence of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki tragedies.

A MINJU CHOSON analyst demands that the United States totally destroy nuclear weapons and withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

KCNA Criticizes Japan's 'Comfort Women' Stance

*SK0608051593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0435
GMT 6 Aug 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, August 6 (KCNA)—Chief cabinet secretary of Japan, Kono, in a statement Wednesday clarifying the Japanese Government's stand toward the “comfort women for the army” problem, reluctantly expressed “apology and remorse” in a word, according to a foreign press report from Tokyo.

Though the Japanese Government made an apology this time, it is still a far cry from the solution of the problem.

As is widely known, the Japanese imperialists drafted close to 200,000 Korean women as "comfort women" and reduced them to sex slaves for the "imperial army" in the past. This was the most diabolic, unprecedented anti-human crime. But the Japanese authorities intend to resolve this grave problem only with a passing word. This cannot be construed otherwise than an attempt still to escape from the problem, not honestly repenting of their responsibility for the crimes in the "comfort women for the army" issue. [sentence as received]

It is clear that Kono's statement which came on the eve of the resignation en bloc of Miyazawa cabinet was intended to save his face as new president of the Liberal Democratic Party and lull public opinion for a while at least, rather than to solve the problem with sincerity.

If the Japanese authorities are truly willing to solve the problem of the "comfort women for the army", they must fully make public the truth of the crimes and make an apology, punish those responsible by law and manifest by material means their will to atone for the crimes in order to restore the honor of the victims and the damaged international justice.

Mongolia Said To Hail Pyongyang-U.S. Talks

SK0508114393 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028*
GMT 5 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 5 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the Ministry of External Relations of Mongolia in a statement issued on July 24 in support of the DPRK-USA talks highly estimated and hailed the fact that the DPRK and U.S. sides reaffirmed the principles of building confidence by removing the nuclear threat from the Korean peninsula, agreed to cooperate in this respect in the future and decided that talks should be resumed between the DPRK and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

We expect that the parties concerned with the removal of confrontation and achievement of a durable peace on the Korean peninsula will continue talks and relations and cooperation among them be realized, the statement said.

Month of Solidarity With Cuban People Closes

SK0608051793 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445*
GMT 6 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 6 (KCNA)—A closing session of the month of solidarity with the Cuban people which opened on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the July 26 armed uprising of the Cuban people took place in Kangwon Province Thursday.

Addressing the meeting, Han Yong-nam, chairman of the Kangwon provincial administrative and economic committee, noted that the Cuban people inheriting the spirit of Moncada have confidently advanced along the

road of socialism, not yielding to any threat and blackmail of the enemy, closely rallied behind the Communist Party headed by their supreme leader, Comrade Fidel Castro.

"We express firm solidarity with the fraternal Cuban people in the just struggle to defend the sovereignty of the country and the gains of revolution and safeguard peace and stability in Central America and Caribbean region, holding aloft the banner of socialism," the speaker said.

"Friendship between the peoples of our two countries is most solid and it is constantly consolidating and developing with every passing day as it is based on the particular intimacy and confidence between the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and respected Comrade Fidel Castro," he said, stressing: "We will staunchly struggle hand in hand with the fraternal Cuban people for the victory of the cause of independence against imperialism, the cause of socialism, upholding the intentions of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il."

Speaking next, Juan Jose Leon Vega, Cuban Ambassador to Korea, said the solidarity functions demonstrated that friendship between the two countries and two peoples which struck its roots on the basis of the intimacy between Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Fidel Castro was further strengthening and developing as days went by.

Noting that the two countries are confronted with the task to defend socialism in a difficult period, he said small countries as they are, they would surely win as they have the great parties, great peoples and great leaders.

He fully supported the "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country" worked out by Comrade Kim Il-song, saying the programme constitutes a solid basis for achieving a reunification of the country, the desire of the entire Korean people.

A solidarity letter to Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz was adopted at the meeting.

Daily Criticizes West's Human Rights Standards

SK0508114693 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 1034*
GMT 5 Aug 93

["Western 'Standard of Human Rights' Cannot Work"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 5 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today denounces the shameless attempt of the Western reactionaries at imposing their unreasonable standard of human rights on other countries.

In a by-lined article, the paper says:

The imperialists vociferously claim that those countries where "human rights conditions are not satisfactory" must "learn" from the "human rights" standard and mode of the West.

This is a preposterous sophism and a brigandish logic.

The "human rights" standard and mode of the West cannot be a "common standard" of human rights of universal significance. It is because the "human rights" advocated by Western countries is a camouflage to cover reactionary bourgeois politics with the veil of "democracy" and only serves for a handful of privileged classes.

It is self-evident that the Western "standard of human rights" aimed at violating the human rights of the overwhelming majority, the working masses, cannot be a "common standard" for the progressive people desirous of an independent and creative life.

Moreover, the "human rights standard" of Western countries is a reversed one. They describe their violation of human rights as "defence of human rights" and the defence of human rights in socialist countries as "violation of human rights." To arbitrarily assess the human rights in other countries and impose one's will on others is an infringement on their sovereignty and interference in their internal affairs. The attempt of Western countries to impose their "conception and standard of human rights" on other countries is part of their pressure on and interference in the progressive and developing countries.

They intend to control the countries advancing along the road of anti-imperialist independence and social progress and maintain and expand the sphere of their influence by wielding the "stick of human rights" against the international current to detente.

It is foolish of them to try to realise their dominationist purposes with the "human rights diplomacy" offensive. The "human rights standard" of Western countries cannot work.

Daily Views Importance of Independent Economy

*SK0508114293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023
GMT 5 Aug 93*

[*"Revolutionary Line for Advancing Along Path of Socialism"*—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 5 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today says that the line of building an independent national economy is a revolutionary line which makes it possible to advance along the road of socialism.

The article goes on:

It is a lawful requirement of socialist construction, above all, to thoroughly apply our party's line of building an independent national economy.

Today when the imperialists are intensifying economic blockade to stifle socialism, an independent economy should be built if the socialist banner is to be held aloft. The imperialists are trying to suffocate the socialist countries economically and restore capitalism on all accounts, waving a purse of dollars.

Today our party and people are successfully building socialism, decisively fighting against imperialists, because they have a powerful independent national economy.

To thoroughly apply the line of building an independent national economy is the most correct way of laying the solid material and technological foundations of socialism and expediting the advance of socialism.

Only when one firmly relies on his own technology and resources and on the strength of his own people, can he develop the economy on a safe basis in conformity with the aspirations and demand of his own people.

In our country the cause of socialist industrialisation was accomplished in only 14 years and the economy is developing at an unusually high rate without any economic crisis, or stagnation, or standstill. Practical experience shows that to build an independent national economy is the most straight way of laying solid material and technical foundations of socialism and rapidly advancing toward socialism and communism.

Thorough implementation of the line of building an independent national economy is also a firm guarantee for our party and people to press ahead with the revolution and construction according to their faith and determination and defend the socialist banner to the end.

As it has now the solid independent national economy, our country is firmly defending the political independence and maintaining independence in politics. Our party and people are always pushing ahead with the revolution and construction according to their faith and will and firmly defending the socialist banner without any vacillation in face of any challenge of the imperialists.

As they have mighty foundations of the independent national economy they are waging an active struggle for the complete victory of socialism and for the independent reunification of the country at an early date and are vigorously stepping up the cause of anti-imperialist independence.

KCNA Reviews 6 Aug Pyongyang Press

*SK0608061493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0511
GMT 6 Aug 93*

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 6 (KCNA)—Papers here today report that classical works of the great leader President Kim Il-song were disseminated and studied deeply abroad.

President Kim Il-song's reminiscences "With the Century" is deeply studied in various countries, says the press.

NODONG SINMUN carries words of the general secretary of the People's Party of Pakistan stressing he deems it a pride and honor to have President Kim Il-song in Asia.

Appearing in papers are messages of greetings to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea from foreign party leaders on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Korean people's victory in the great fatherland liberation war.

NODONG SINMUN carries a letter of thanks to Comrade Kim Chong-il from Alhaji Adam Bukhari Ziblim, general secretary of the National Convention Party of Ghana, who had participated in the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the victory in the war.

Papers report that Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to different units which highly displayed the beautiful tradition of the army-people unity.

NODONG SINMUN conveys words of world's revolutionary people and publication highly praising Comrade Kim Chong-il as an outstanding genius of military affairs in the age of independence.

Econews of papers includes reports about new uninterrupted upsurge effected in production and construction in different branches of the national economy in the spirit with which the 40th anniversary of the victory in the war was celebrated as a grand festival of victors.

Papers inform the readers that a Paektu-san photo exhibition opened on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory in the great fatherland liberation war.

Papers report that a delegation of the North side headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) failed to go to Seoul for tripartite working-level talks between the North and the South and overseas sides to prepare the Fourth Pannational Rally because of obstructions by the South Korean authorities. A statement issued by the delegation in this regard and a letter to the preparatory committee for the formation of the South side's headquarters of Pomminnyon sent by the Central Committees of the North side headquarters of Pomminnyon and Pomchonghaknyon [National Alliance of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification] after a joint general meeting are printed in the press.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with a commentary denouncing the South Korean authorities' anti-reunification act in blocking the North side's delegates to tripartite working-level talks from going to Seoul to prepare the pannational rally in Seoul and an article stressing that if the tyrannical military fascist rule is to be ended in South Korea, the leftovers of the dictatorial era must be liquidated.

Functions celebrating the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Korean people in the war were held in different countries, says the press.

Papers give an account of a closing session of the month of solidarity with the Cuban people.

XINHUA News Agency published an article on national defence, and the Japanese Government announced results of investigation admitting the forced drafting of "comfort women for the army", according to papers.

On the lapse of 48 years since the tragedy in Hiroshima and Nagasaki papers carry articles stressing that nuclear threat must be removed for good.

NODONG SINMUN deals with the miserable life of the working masses in capitalist society.

South Korea

DPRK Said To Denounce South's Nuclear Policy

SK0608065293 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
0607 GMT 6 Aug 93

[Text] According to a NAEWOE News Agency report, North Korea, which has remained silent to the ROK side's proposal for holding a meeting of the South-North Joint Nuclear Control Committee on 10 August, denounced the ROK Government, claiming that it is seeking a policy of relying on outside forces in the nuclear issue.

Yesterday Pyongyang radio of North Korea, saying that the South Korean authorities are acting disgracefully toward some countries, laying the blame at our door in connection with the nuclear issue and calling them to impose international sanctions and chastisement on us, denounced the ROK, claiming that such an act is an antinational and antireunification criminal act.

Editorial Calls for North-South Nuclear Dialogue

SK0608044693 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean
5 Aug 93 p 3

[Editorial: "The North and South Themselves Must Finally Resolve the North Korean Nuclear Issue"]

[Text] Regarding the issue of peace and security on the Korean peninsula, North Korea's nuclear issue has long been a troublesome question for the world. The time has now come, however, for the North and South to resolve the nuclear issue themselves.

Following North Korea's expression of its willingness to return to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT], they have permitted the ad hoc inspection team of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] to enter the North. Under these circumstances, our government has proposed resuming the Joint Nuclear Control Committee [JNCC] meeting to North Korea. This shows that the ROK indirectly supports the 3d-stage of U.S.-North

Korea talks concerning the nuclear issue, and that it intends to continue to resolve the issue from a national point of view.

Concerning North Korea's nuclear issue, our side has been as patient as it can be. Therefore, North Korea's future reaction to our proposal for the JNCC meeting is very important, because it will determine whether we will have to take actions like sanctions or punishment or whether we will resolve the issue. As of now, it is impossible to approach North-South dialogue and the Korean peninsula issue without resolving the issue which related countries like the United States, Japan, China, and Russia and the rest of the world acknowledge. Furthermore, it would further aggravate economic difficulties and isolation from the international community.

The limitations of the activities of the IAEA inspection team in North Korea can be discerned from the North side's explanation. North Korea says that only an inspection "in the broadest sense," the IAEA inspection remains below the standard of the routine ad hoc inspection of its already reported nuclear facilities. In this respect, transparency of North Korea's "abandonment of nuclear development" cannot therefore be verified without the IAEA's special inspection of North Korea's unreported nuclear facilities in Yongbyon. Special inspections derive from the "North-South Basic Agreement" and "Joint Denuclearization Declaration" which were agreed upon, adopted, and signed by responsible relevant officials of the North and South.

"The Joint Denuclearization Declaration" provides that "the North and South shall not test, manufacture, produce, introduce, maintain, stockpile, deploy, nor use nuclear weapons, and that they shall only use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes" under a precondition that "the North and South must eliminate the danger of nuclear war by denuclearizing the Korean peninsula." Also, it provides that "the North and South shall conduct nuclear inspection of facilities selected by each other and agreed upon by the two sides in order to verify the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula in accordance with appropriate procedures and methods defined by the JNCC." In other words, it defines the spirit and objective of the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula as well as methods and procedures to denuclearize the peninsula. In short, the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula can be realized only if the North and South abide by it. Resolving the North Korean nuclear issue and denuclearizing the Korean peninsula can be resolved by the joint denuclearization declaration and the activities of the JNCC. Nevertheless, North Korea has unilaterally ignored or refused it.

North Korea must not delay resolving the nuclear issue under its insidious intention to possess nuclear weapons. It must be aware that in order to even open the 3rd-stage talks with the United States it needs to first hold North-South dialogue and thus they need to respond positively to our proposal.

Defense Ministry Views Policy Meeting With U.S.

*SK0608041393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0245 GMT
6 Aug 93*

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 6 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States have agreed to cooperate more closely in pressing North Korea to resume talks with South Korea and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and undergo IAEA inspections of its two undeclared nuclear sites in Yongbyon in their joint effort to solve North Korea's nuclear issue. Defense Ministry officials said Friday the agreement was reached at a meeting of the policy review subcommittee of the Korea-U.S. Security Consultative Meeting (SCM) in Hawaii on Thursday.

The meeting also discussed defense burden sharing between the two countries in South Korea and the projected transfer in 1994 of peace-time operational control over the South Korean Armed Forces to South Korea. The two countries confirmed the earlier agreement to shelve U.S. troop cuts in South Korea until North Korea completely gives up its nuclear development program, while agreeing to tie next year's joint military exercise "Team Spirit" to progress in North Korea's effort to solve the nuclear issue.

On the issue of defense burden sharing, the two countries differed in opinion and agreed to discuss it again in the SCM slated for November in Seoul. While Washington demanded a sharp increase in South Korea's burden for next year, which rose 22 percent (40 million U.S. dollars) for this year, Seoul argued for a small increase on the basis of the earlier agreement that Seoul will bear up to one-third of the won-based costs of the U.S. Forces in Korea by 1995.

The two countries disagreed on the oil supply issue in the logistics cooperation committee meeting. Washington requested that Seoul use JP-8 fuel oil, instead of JP-4, not only in aircraft but also in ground equipment, such as cranes, as do the U.S. Pacific Command and the U.S. Forces Japan. But Seoul turned down the request on the ground that JP-8 is expensive. The use of JP-8 in aircraft and ground equipment will incur an additional cost of 20 billion won (25 million dollars) a year and that in aircraft only an additional cost of 8 billion won a year. The difference will also be settled in the November SCM, the officials said.

PRC Becomes Seoul's 3d-Largest Trade Partner

*SK0608014893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0111 GMT
6 Aug 93*

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 6 (YONHAP)—China became South Korea's third largest trade partner in the first half of the year on the strength of the normalization of diplomatic ties last year, the Trade, Industry and Energy Ministry announced on Friday. Direct trade with China was 4.23 billion U.S. dollars in the first half, following trade with the United States of 17.75 billion dollars and with Japan of 14.97 billion dollars, according to the ministry.

The trade with China, previously minimal, began to rise rapidly in 1991 as the cold war structure broke down, and soared almost 50 percent last year, when the two countries formed diplomatic ties. Hong Kong and Germany, Korea's third and fourth largest trade partners last year, slid back one place each to fourth and fifth for the six-month period as China moved up from fifth.

Exports to China more than doubled every month from a year earlier and soared 143.1 percent in January-June to 2.41 billion dollars backed by China's active economic development and the rising Japanese yen. Imports from China dropped 5.6 percent in the same period as purchases of agricultural products, the biggest import item, fell 14.1 percent. Total trade with China, which includes indirect trade via Hong Kong, was 8.2 billion dollars last year and qualified for third place but this is the first time direct trade alone has made the grade.

Small Firms Suffer Losses Over Russian Loan Stoppage

SK0608053393 Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 6 Aug 93 p 9

[Text] In connection with the government's plan to stop providing economic loan to Russia, the enterprises concerned are taking pains to work out a countermeasure. When consumer goods exports to Russia based on loans was discontinued in December 1991, the enterprises have had much difficulty in disposing of their stocks. The government's short-sighted policy has caused considerable losses for the enterprises.

Originally, out of the \$3 billion economic loan to Russia, the government allotted \$800 million to the enterprises based on consumer goods exports. Accordingly, the trade enterprises have exported \$470 million in consumer goods to Russia.

However, as a political disturbance has taken place in Russia, the government fully stopped the export of consumer goods to Russia on 27 December 1991. Accordingly, the enterprises concerned have not exported the remaining consumer goods worth \$330 million to Russia despite the treaty with Russia.

Even though the enterprises completely produced the consumer goods, the export of the goods was stopped shortly before they were shipped. In particular, this was a great loss to the enterprises concerned. According to the data of a resource department of the Ministry of Trade and Industry, \$69 million worth of 17 kinds of goods have been produced but have not been exported. The major items are \$16 million in chemical raw materials, including dye materials; \$24 million in electric and electronic goods, including small-size motors and CPT; \$13 million in fiber materials such as textile goods; and \$16 million in shoes and clothing.

An enterprise official said: "Considerable items were produced based on the orderer's demand and the items were made only in accordance with the demand in

Russia. Thus, the items cannot be consumed in a third market because of the difference in standards. Accordingly, there is much difficulty in disposing of the stocks. If the government fully discontinues the economic loan to Russia, there is no way for the enterprises to sell the consumer goods." The enterprises which have the stocks are mainly general trade companies, including Samsung Co. Ltd, and some small- and medium- sized enterprises.

An official of a resource department of the Ministry of Trade and Industry pointed out: "Under the circumstances in which Russia's political situation is unstable, it is unreasonable for the enterprises to continue to produce the consumer goods. He revealed that: "The Ministry of Trade and Industry is investigating the actual condition of the enterprises' stocks."

Official: 'No Choice' But To Resume Okhotsk Fishing

SK0608070993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0640 GMT 6 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 6 (YONHAP)—South Korea must resume fishing in the Okhotsk Sea despite Russia's threat of retaliation, Korean officials said Friday. "We will stick by last May's agreement with other countries to reduce our catch by 25 percent, but Russia has no right to declare a unilateral ban because the area is outside its economic zone," a Foreign Ministry official said. "We repeat that South Korea and other countries should make an objective joint survey to see how serious the depletion is and decide on further actions," he said.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin sent a letter dated June 29 to President Kim Yong-sam, saying the situation was developing into a political issue in Russia and asking him to stop fishing in the Okhotsk Sea until Moscow and the involved nations reach an accord. South Korea, Japan, China and Poland fish in Okhotsk, mostly for pollack. Kim responded that South Korean fishermen were being hurt by Russia's unilateral declaration of a moratorium and said that Seoul had no choice but to resume fishing in the zone, though at a reduced quota, the officials said.

Slovak Foreign Minister Begins Seoul Visit 5 Aug

Seoul, Bratislava Agree on Visas

SK0508124393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0850 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 5 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Slovakia agreed Thursday to conclude a visa agreement in the nearest future to help businessmen in each other's country. Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu and his visiting counterpart, Jozef Moravcik, decided to begin preparations for the visa agreement in morning talks, officials said.

Slovakia, which separated from Czech on Jan. 1, is one of the most invested countries in Eastern Europe by

Korean companies. Samsung, for example, has a 23 million-U.S.-dollar joint investment project with Slovakia's Calex for refrigerator manufacturing and exports 120 million dollars of refrigerator compressors to Slovakia.

The two foreign ministers agreed that businessmen operating in each other's country should be given multiple entry visas for better working conditions or even consider visa waivers, officials said. Moravcik asked that Seoul open a mission in Slovakia, but Han explained Seoul was in the middle of reorganizing its overseas missions for cost effectiveness, they said. The Slovakian foreign minister is in Seoul on a four-day visit from Wednesday to attend the Tajon Expo opening ceremony.

Meets With President Kim

SK0508125893 Seoul YONHAP in English 1130 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 5 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam met visiting Slovak Foreign Minister Jozef Moravcik at Chongwadae [presidential offices] on Thursday afternoon to exchange opinions on ways to expand bilateral economic cooperation. During the meeting, President Kim welcomed Slovakia's participation in the Taejon Expo, expressing the hope that there will be brisk economic and technical exchanges between the two countries with Slovakia's Taejon Expo participation as a momentum.

The president said that the peaceful division of Czechoslovakia into Slovakia and Czech early in the year would serve as a good example in the resolution of the flooding issues of nationalism. During his Chongwadae call, Minister Moravcik conveyed to President Kim a personal message from Slovak President Michal Kovac, in which he invited Kim to visit Slovakia.

Kim Urges Repatriation of Fallen Patriots' Remains

SK0508125593 Seoul YONHAP in English 1106 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 5 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam asked his Chief Secretary Pak Kwang-yong on Thursday to see to it that the remains of 87 fallen patriots now in the abroad be taken back home. The presidential instructions were made on the occasion of the return home on Thursday of the remains of five leaders of the Provisional Korean Government in Shanghai during the Japanese rule of Korea. President Kim also told Pak to have a pertinent office find out if there are any further remains of Korean fallen independence fighters in foreign countries.

The remains of 87 deceased patriots abroad include those of Yang Ki-tak and 74 others in China, those of Kang Sang-ho in Japan, those of Dr. So Chae-pil and two others in the U.S. and those of eight in Russia. However, the exact location of the tombs of 66 of them has not been known, an official said.

Kim Stresses Consistency in Cabinet, Policies

SK0608052493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0516 GMT 6 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 6 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam denied that he was considering a cabinet reshuffle Friday in an interview with the KYONGGI ILBO, a provincial daily, saying consistency was more important. "Unfairness and corruption have planted their roots in our society too deeply to be got rid of in a short time," he told the KYONGGI. "So reform cannot be temporary. The government will not stop pushing ahead with reform until the end of my term in office. "People may be dissatisfied with the process of forging government policies and their results, but I'm not considering a reshuffle as of now because maintaining coherence of reform policy is important," he said.

Kim said he would proceed with reform in the way of thinking and convention as well as the nation's law and system. Delay in the introduction of real-name financial transactions would allow the government to prudently study the proper time and method to reduce the side effects, he said.

DLP Head Opposes Investigation of Ex-Presidents

SK0608024093 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 6 Aug 93 p 2

[Text] Chairman Kim Chong-pil of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) yesterday declared his opposition to any investigation of former Presidents Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u with regard to three major scandals that occurred during their rules. "The belated investigation of the former presidents would not be good for the national interest," Kim said.

His comment came after rival parties agreed Wednesday to launch a joint investigation into the three incidents in accordance with parliamentary authority to probe state affairs, a privilege given by the Constitution, for about 20 days starting the middle of this month. "I suggest we no longer dwell on the past," said the DLP chairman, adding that "not only the ex-presidents but also all those who participated in the former administrations would have to take responsibility."

Kim's comment was taken as a rebuff to an opposition call for probes of Chon and No concerning the construction of the so-called Peace Dam, irregularities in the Yulgok Project and the Dec. 12, 1979 "coup-like incident" in which both Chon and No were involved as Army major generals. Kim was the first high-ranking ruling party official to openly oppose an investigation of the two ex-presidents.

The Board of Audit and Inspection, which has almost finished a probe into the three incidents, has not yet decided whether to question Chon and No concerning the Dec. 12, 1979 incident in which officers of the Defense Security Command led by Chon arrested then

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Chong Song-hwa. President Kim Yong-sam has suggested that the matter be left to the judgment of history, hinting at his opposition to the proposed investigation of and punishment of the former presidents.

Chong Chu-il Leaves United People's Party

*SK0608101893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0956 GMT
6 Aug 93*

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 6 (YONHAP)—Rep. Chong Chu-il of the United People's Party [UPP] declared on Friday he was bolting from the splinter party.

Chong said in a statement the United People's Party "has for long ceased to play the role of accommodating and representing the opinions of the people properly."

He especially complained that "various undemocratic elements" on the part of the party leadership remain uncorrected despite repeated calls for rectification.

With Chong's departure, the number of UPP solons was reduced from 13 to 12.

Ministry Announces 6 Koreans Test HIV Positive

*SK0308005793 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
3 Aug 93 p 3*

[Text] Six more Koreans tested positive in human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) during the month of July, the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs announced yesterday. Thus, the total number of people infected with the AIDS [acquired immunodeficiency syndrome]-causing virus has been brought to 247, including 22 women, according to the official account by health authorities.

A Thai and two other foreigners who were infected with the virus were deported to their home countries last month, a ministry spokesman said yesterday. As of late last month, a total of 33 foreigners have been expatriated because of their infection with HIV.

A 28-year-old seaman and another man in his late 30s were confirmed to have been infected through sexual contacts overseas, while a 29-year-old man identified only by his surname So was infected through heterosexual contacts at home. A 31-year-old housewife was also confirmed to have been infected with the deadly virus by her husband, according to the ministry.

The first Korean AIDS patient was reported by health authorities in 1985 and 16 people infected with HIV virus developed into AIDS patients since then. Twelve of them died and four others are under special surveillance and treatment by health authorities.

Ministry Issues Warning on Cholera From Thailand

*SK0608084193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0732 GMT
6 Aug 93*

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 6 (YONHAP)—The Health and Social Affairs Ministry said Friday it had found cholera germs in a toilet on an airliner that arrived in Seoul from Bangkok via Singapore with 77 passengers last Monday. Ministry officials said they were trying to find all 77 passengers to see whether any of them had contracted cholera.

The ministry issued a cholera warning for travelers to Bangkok since officials found cholera in another airliner on Sunday, the officials said. They said, however, they could not name the airlines because disclosure might "harm" their image.

The ministry received reports of three cases of cholera and found cholera germs in toilets of two other airliners this year, all of them coming from Bangkok. Nine out of 11 patients who contracted cholera last year were believed to have contracted the disease in Thailand, the officials said.

Hospital, College Officials Booked on Graft Charges

*SK0508125493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0940 GMT
5 Aug 93*

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 5 (YONHAP)—Senior officials of 36 pharmaceutical firms, general hospitals and school foundations were booked by the Seoul Police on Thursday on charges of misfeasance and graft. Twenty school and hospital officials booked were suspected of having received 30.6 billion won in kickbacks in the procurement of medicinal supplies worth 164 billion won from 16 leading pharmaceutical firms of the country since 1991. The kickbacks were made in the form of cash contribution to research programs of hospitals and colleges.

"Contributions are supposed to be given without any conditions. In this case, however, the money handed cannot be regarded as contribution because they were given in return for the purchase of large amounts of medicinal supplies," a police officer said. He said nine general hospitals attached to medical schools received kickbacks in amounts ranging from 420 million won to 8,060 million won.

The hospitals were those run by the medical schools of Catholic College and Inje, Yonsei, Kyonghui, Hanyang, Sunchonhyang, Chung-ang, Korea and Ewha Universities. The pharmaceutical firms involved included Chongkundang, Yongjin, Cheil, Poyong, Tong-a, Taeyung, Iltong, Green Cross and Chung-oe.

Overseas Investments by Conglomerates Growing
SK0608084993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0817 GMT
6 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 6 (YONHAP)—Much of the investment being made by South Korean conglomerates is overseas because of the poor demand, gloomy prospects, high interest rates, high wages, and industrial disputes at home. Groups such as Samsung, Hyundai and Daewoo are pouring ever more money into China, the former Soviet Republics and Latin America, where wages are low and markets full of potential.

In some cases, overseas investment in the second half of the year will surpass home investment. Daewoo, for example, plans to invest between 700 billion won and 800 billion won (875 million U.S. dollars to 1 billion dollars) overseas in the second half and 560 billion won at home. Its 20 major projects abroad include a joint-venture auto plant in Uzbekistan with a capacity of 180,000 "citizen's cars" a year, and a cement factory in China's Shandong Province costing 240 billion won.

Samsung is pursuing joint-venture projects in semiconductors and computers in Southeast Asia and Latin America, and is looking at a proposal to build shipyards in Vietnam and China. Hyundai is planning to construct an automated assembly factory with a capacity of 120,000 cars a year and an exclusive port in Dalian, China. It is also considering advances into Vietnam, India, Egypt and Thailand.

Sunkyong will invest 57 billion won this year in developing resources abroad. It also considers building an oil refinery for 160 billion won and a textile factory for 80 billion won, both in China. Goldstar Co. invested 56 billion won overseas in the first half of the year, over six times more than the same period last year. It is doing a market survey on electronics products in China.

KIA Motors Corp. made no overseas investment in the first half but is planning to build an assembly plant in Indonesia for its pride minicompact next year with a capacity of 50,000 a year. It also plans to construct a joint-venture factory in Yanbian, China, with the capacity to make 50,000 cars a year.

Halla Cement Co. signed a contract to build a cement factory in joint venture basis in the Philippines in May with a capacity of 1 million tons of cement a year. It also signed contracts to build three cement factories in China in June.

Overseas investment is seen as a desirable way to cope with the trend toward economic blocs, but it may reduce investment, hinder economic recovery and create unemployment at home.

*** Article Views President's Military Appointments**
932C0152A Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 28 May 93
p 4

[Text] President Kim Yong-sam's unprecedented military purge and appointments continue to be a subject of world discussion.

Since his inauguration, the president has relieved 19 generals. This was done in concert with the "Hanahoe" activities to rid the government of people involved in the 12 December incident. Army chief of staff, Kim Jin-yong, relieved on 8 March, was the first to go. Altogether the number of stars relieved add up to 42.

Not only has the president relieved generals, but he has also made peculiar appointments. He appointed a general from the air force to head the joint chiefs, and an ROTC graduate to be commander of the Second Army. Traditionally, both of these positions have gone to graduates of the Korea Military Academy [KMA]. It is also strange that when it came time to pick a naval chief of staff, the president passed over four senior vice admirals and appointed a more junior rear admiral to the post.

The president promoted the previous undersecretary of national defense, a former major general, to minister of national defense, and an ordinary bureaucrat to be undersecretary of the same ministry. It is as though these appointments, made at the time of the inauguration, were only a "preview" of the strange appointments to come.

Because of these actions, the channels President Kim is using to gather ideas about the military have become a matter of concern. Although there is some dissension, the overall consensus seems to be that the president is accurately reflecting the opinion within the military.

First of all, sources close to the president point out that President Kim served for a long time on the National Assembly's National Defense Committee. Because he actively dealt with the problems of all three branches of service, he has formed his own opinions about the military.

President Kim, elected nine times (more than any other member of the National Assembly), spent over half of his time in office as an active member of the National Defense Committee.

One high ranking government official who recently met with the president remarked, "I was surprised at the president's thorough understanding concerning the Hanahoe roster."

In addition to this, it is known that the president is listening to many people, both inside and outside the military.

Kwon Yong-hae, the president's unusual selection for minister of defense, serves President Kim not only as a

source for official reports, but is also someone who spends a lot of time with the president in deep military discussions.

One secretary remarked, "Not only were we surprised to find out just how much the president knew about the military, but also to see how much time he spends talking to generals, both reserve and active. He talks with them in person, and over the phone."

Since the presidential election, the president has spent more and more time listening to military people.

These groups of advisors also include alumni from later classes of the president's alma-mater, Kyongnam High School. For example, there are Yi Pyong-tae (member of the 17th KMA class), minister of the Veterans Administration, Kim Kwang-sok (member of the 17th KMA class), chief of the Manpower Administration, Ku Chang-noe (18th KMA class), previously Third Army commander, and Choe Chang-yun (18th KMA class, chief secretary to Kim before his inauguration), minister of government administration.

Because he is originally from the Pusan Kyongnam region, it is also said that the president has direct and indirect links to the "PK faction."

In the middle of this month, when the president explained his position on the 12 December issue, he referred to meetings he was having with General Chong Sung-hwa.

According to one political source, "President Kim seems to be receiving a great deal of military advice from Pak Hui-do, former army chief of staff, and Kim Tok-yong, first state minister for political affairs."

The source also said, in reference to Kim Tok-yong, "Kim is regularly briefed about the National Defense Department by the Defense Security Service and others. As far as I know, he uses the basis of these reports to often inform the president of opinions within the military."

Also, with regard to dealing with people involved in the 12 December incident, it is known that President Kim is taking a lot of advice from opposition party members. In fact, removal of the four generals, including previous chairman of the joint chiefs, Yi Pil-sop, was targeted by Democratic Party members of the National Defense Committee as being absolutely essential.

Because of this kind of action, it is believed that the president is soliciting Democratic party opinions through many channels. It is also thought that, because the Democratic Party brought up the 12 December issue, the president will use their participation when coming up with a solution.

Looking at the overall situation, President Kim has: 1. used his personal experience on national defense as a foundation; 2. listened to a myriad of opinions inside and outside the military, and included the opposition

party and others in the decisionmaking process; 3. established major principles for personnel changes; 4. been successful at using these principles to implement changes.

In fact, on the 24th, after discovering that appointing any of the vice admirals as naval chief of staff would have caused problems, the president passed them over to select from among more junior vice admirals, thereby establishing a policy. According to this policy, by picking the most senior vice admiral, selection naturally was narrowed down to Admiral Kim Hong-yol quite naturally.

In other words, the president merely established the policy for the selection, but it is said that he did not participate in the details of the appointment.

Regarding this, when announcing the appointment and promotion of five people, including the new joint chief of staff, President Kim said, "While some may look at these appointments and call them revolutionary, I would disagree. They were merely made in accordance with established principles."

The president also said, "We must do away with this custom of considering only the school or region one comes from, and show people that if they are honest and decent people, if they work hard, if they have ability, they will be promoted. We need to show them that there is a reward for such diligence." He also said, "It seems that when people see us following principle and promoting only the best, they are very surprised."

Along with the unusual appointment of the new naval chief of staff, there are expectations that four vice admirals will soon be relieved. Even more "falling stars" expected when the ongoing Yulgok investigation is completed and the results published. Thus it appears that President Kim's military purge will remain a subject of discussion for at least a while longer.

* Kim Tae-chung Focuses on Unification Issue

932C0175A Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 6 Jul 93
p 4

[Text] On the the first morning following his 4 July return, Kim Tae-chung, former representative of the the Democratic Party, refused to meet with reporters. Members of the press were turned away at the door of his Dong-Gyo-Dong residence. This was something that never would have happened in the past. To photographers who had squeezed inside with congressmen, Kim said; "No interviews..." It was as though by refusing contact with the press he was trying to prove his withdrawal from politics.

Although Kim met with guests by twos and threes throughout the day, the subjects discussed were "health" and "life in Cambridge", "not politics." Sources close to Kim say that in about a week he plans to move his home to Il-san, where he intends to begin in earnest to focus

upon his writing. Here we see added emphasis to avoid even the appearance of being involved in politics. Kim repeatedly stressed to visitors that he had "retired from politics." "I am sorry" said Kim, "to keep saying the same thing over and over, but people say that I am involved in politics, and I am not. I am not. This is my problem, and I am not. Who can force me into politics? I will remain your friend, concentrating on the issue of unification. I just wish that you would not anticipate, that you would not misunderstand. I especially wish that you members of the press would not write things like that."

But it seems as though his words were not received literally by all of those who came out to greet him. Even though it was Sunday, the airport parking lot was filled with welcomers who cheered at every one of DJ's words. There was one in the crowd, who, each time Kim finished a sentence said; "That is his philosophy," as if to explain, and then those around him would cheer and applaud. Even though the man on the platform was not a politician, and he repeatedly emphasized that he was not, the crowd was enthusiastic. The scene at once seemed strange and at the same time natural. Even after returning home, Kim sought to isolate himself from politics. This was one reason for the serious position he took when asked if he would be meeting with the president, "I'm afraid people will misunderstand and think I'm still in politics." Kim insisted; "In the future I will have nothing to do with the management of the Democratic party." He also said; "It is absurd to say that

I am involved with the Democratic party." Amidst all the commotion, however, congressmen of the Democratic party were busily meeting with Kim. This further illustrates that the party rank of "Non-politician" for Kim Tae-chung, is somewhat far from the truth.

In spite of the facts, Kim stubbornly maintains his position of "retired from politics." Those around him declare that "unless some major situation should develop that would literally turn the political world upside-down," Kim will not return to politics. Many say that one possible "major situation" would be a sudden change in the north-south dilemma. Also, the very problem that Kim will be concentrating on is the unification issue. Kim's new home is the source of much speculation and conjecture.

Kim's devotion and efforts toward unification are great. Five months ago, when he left for England, he had 12 boxes of books, upon his return that number had increased to 24. With impassioned speeches of prosperity, he tells everyone he meets that, "once unified, Korea will become a superpower." Not only does he have a three step unification theory, but lately he has developed a new game plan that hinges upon the fall of North Korea. He is hard at work developing both ideas. Also, in an effort to create his own organization to carry out research on this problem, he is actively working with Britain's Royal Research Group, Germany's Socialist Research Group, the United States' Carter Foundation, and others, it was disclosed.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Minister Urges UN Military Action in Bosnia

BK0608083393 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0723 GMT 6 Aug 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Aug 6 (BERNAMA)—Malaysia has called for United Nations military action against the Serb offenders to end the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said only military action can bring peace to Bosnia.

In this connection, it was reassuring to know that Britain had decided to join an air assault on Serb or other terrorists in the republic of the former Yugoslavia, he told reporters after a meeting here Thursday.

We have all along called for the attacks as the only way of silencing the big guns around besieged Sarajevo, he said.

Abdullah also said that the decision to attack the Serb positions should not be taken just to please countries which had called for it, but the action itself is delayed after that. [sentence as received]

Reaction to Tokyo's 'Comfort Women' Statement

OW0508120193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0949 GMT
5 Aug 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Aug. 5 KYODO—Several Malaysian ruling and opposition parties Thursday [5 August] welcomed Japan's apology to women who were forced to serve at frontline brothels for Japanese troops during World War II, and said Tokyo should now pay compensation to the victims.

"It's very brave and honorable for the Japanese Government to apologize because it's a known secret that comfort women existed," said Naim Mohamed of Umno Youth, one of two groups supporting compensation demands of the Malaysian women. Umno Youth is a wing of Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed's dominant United Malays National Organization (UMNO) party in the ruling National Front coalition.

"By apologizing, Japan will be more respected," said Naim of the government statement Wednesday that also acknowledged military authorities were directly involved in forcibly recruiting the women.

Thus far, eight women, all in their 60s and 70s, have claimed they were forcibly recruited into brothels to serve Japanese Imperial Army troops during the Japanese occupation of then Malaya from 1942-45. Unlike other comfort women in South Korea, China, Taiwan, the Philippines and Indonesia, the Malaysian victims have yet to file suits against Japan for compensation because they fear their identities will be revealed.

Malaysia's largest opposition party, the Chinese-based Democratic Action Party (DAP), called for the incoming Japanese coalition government to offer to pay compensation to the victims and their families.

The new government can "pave the way for a new era of relations with Asian nations by declaring that Japan will atone for the sex crimes...by paying compensation," said DAP Secretary General Lim Kit Siang.

Michael Chong, who heads the public complaints bureau of Malaysia's largest Chinese political party—the Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA)—said they will now work on getting recompense for the women.

The MCA is supporting the demands of three of the eight Malaysian victims, with the help of a Japanese professor and a team of Japanese lawyers. The three women are asking for 200,000 dollars each in compensation, said Chong, adding that the women and their families must first be persuaded to allow their names to be revealed.

Two of the three women are married. Chong said the third victim, from Sabah State, never married because she claims she could not have children after an "operation" was performed on her when she was held as a "comfort woman."

Foreign Minister Stresses 'Good Relations' With Japan

BK0508140293 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia
Network in English 1300 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi says Malaysia will maintain its good relations with Japan though it will be administered by a new government. He said good relations between the two countries were vital, especially in the area of economic cooperation. He said whichever government comes to power, Malaysia's policy in maintaining good relations will continue. Datuk Abdullah was speaking to reporters after attending the meeting of the UMNO [United Malays National Organization] Supreme Council in Kuala Lumpur. He said Malaysia's policy toward Japan, (?including) its Look East policy, will continue. He said Malaysia would explain the East Asia Economic Caucus to the new leader in Japan.

Datuk Abdullah was responding to questions on Malaysia's stand toward an imminent change of government in Japan, where an eight-party coalition is set to take over from the Liberal Democratic Party, which has ruled for 38 years.

Mahathir: APEC Being Turned Into 'Trade Bloc'

BK0508124993 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES
in English 4 Aug 93 p 2

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said an Australian proposal to change the name of the Asia-Pacific

Economic Cooperation (APEC) to the Asian-Pacific Economic Community only confirmed Malaysia's worst fears that the group would be turned into a trade bloc.

The prime minister said APEC was gradually resembling a trade bloc with the setting up of a secretariat in Singapore.

Australia's foreign minister, Gareth Evans, suggested at the weekend that APEC change its name to reflect a "sense of togetherness" now evident in the 15-nation forum.

Dr. Mahathir said at a press conference at the end of his three-day official visit to Brunei that APEC was formed supposedly to undertake projects to be participated by developing countries so that they could upgrade their capability.

He said: "This was why Malaysia became a member even though we had earlier been worried that it would be a formal body which would benefit only certain economically strong countries.

"We were worried that APEC would be manipulated by the big powers. Today, it has been proven that it is in fact being manipulated.

"When it was formed, there was no mention of a secretariat. Now there is one. Now, they are also talking of a summit meeting.

"It is now quite clear what their intention was from the start to have a trade grouping for the interest of the economically strong countries and not the weaker ones."

Asked whether Malaysia will withdraw from APEC, Dr. Mahathir said it would not, but its participation would only be at the level as agreed upon when it was formed in 1989.

Asked whether he has changed his mind about not attending the proposed summit of APEC heads of state in Seattle in November, Dr. Mahathir said his decision was firm.

"I would have been happy to attend if the proposal for the summit had come from APEC itself ... after the proposal had been debated and agreed upon by member countries.

"But when only one nation decides that we should have a summit and then everybody goes along and have a summit, then I think this is most undemocratic..." said Dr. Mahathir.

U.S. President Bill Clinton made the summit proposal when he attended the Group of Seven meeting in Tokyo last month.

APEC mooted by Australia comprises 15 countries, namely the ASEAN six, the U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong.

Mahathir: Western Media Creating 'Friction'

BK0508132593 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 4 Aug 93 p 2

[Text] Bandar Seri Begawan, Tues.—Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said today the Western media were still at their game of attempting to create friction and instability in this region so that the West could compete "with us."

If we are stable, then they cannot compete with us," he told a press conference at the end of his three-day visit to Brunei.

"Of course, they will say this is nonsense, that they are not Machiavellian."

Dr. Mahathir was responding to a BORNEO BULLETIN reporter's question about the purported proposal to sell Limbang to Brunei as reported by the FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW in its "Intelligence" column in 1987.

Dr. Mahathir had then sued the Hong Kong-based magazine and won. The magazine was ordered to retract the story and apologise which it did.

"This is the kind of thing that the FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW is very fond of. It is a magazine printed in Asia but controlled by people outside Asia.

"Now that Mr. (Rupert) Murdoch has bought Star TV, you can be sure that Star TV will also be working on the same line.

"Why has Murdoch bought 64 percent of Star TV for U.S. \$500 million (RM [Malaysian ringgit] 1,300 million) if it is not to control the news that we are going to receive?

"There are plenty of places to go and make money. He can go elsewhere. Yet he paid a fantastic price for a network that has never shown any profit. It's worth knowing why."

Murdoch, a naturalised American citizen recently signed a deal to buy a 63-percent stake in HutchVision, Star TV's parent. HutchVision is owned by Hong Kong-based Hutchison Whampoa and the family of the conglomerate's chairman, Li Ka-shing. Star TV is Asia's pioneer satellite television network.

Dr. Mahathir said the Western media seemed fond of providing misinformation, including reports of the country's economic and political instability when in fact Malaysia was very stable.

"But they are not going to report that. Instead, they will report on some obscure incidents and say ... well, the prime minister is corrupt. And then they'll be happy and satisfied that they can write that.

"Even economic magazines are actually political magazines. They care little about economic facts.

"Unfortunately, the Western people tend to read their own media and come to the wrong conclusions about our country. This has resulted in them missing out on investment opportunities. Serves them right. The Japanese invest and make all the money."

Cooperation With Australian Air Force To Increase

*BK0608094693 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0722 GMT 6 Aug 93*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Aug. 6 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The air forces of Malaysia and Australia are studying further possibilities of improving cooperation in aircraft training, maintenance, and tactical flying operations, a Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) spokesman said Friday.

He said cooperation in tactical air operations would also involve jet fighters like the soon-to-be acquired F/A-18 Hornet for the RMAF, maritime patrol aircraft, and transport aircraft.

These would be new bilateral activities which would mutually benefit both sides, he told reporters after Australian Air Commander Air Vice Marshal Gary Beck called on Chief of Air Force Lt. Gen. Abdul Ghani Abdul Aziz at the Defence Ministry here.

The RMAF officer said Air Vice Marshal Beck's visit was to improve on the excellent state of cooperation between the two air forces and enhance contacts between senior personnel.

Air Vice Marshal Beck, who arrived here yesterday, is scheduled to visit the Butterworth Airbase in the northern state of Penang Saturday as part of his week-long official visit.

Australia has a detachment at the base for the maintenance of Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) maritime patrol aircraft which make regular stopover during routine patrol of the region and for its F/A-18 Hornet jet fighters which are deployed during exercises under a bilateral agreement.

Mahathir: Ghafar Has 'No Intention' of Resigning

*BK0508134693 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia
Network in Malay 1300 GMT 5 Aug 93*

[Text] Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed says Mr. Ghafar Baba has no intention of resigning as deputy prime minister. Dr. Mahathir, who is concurrently UMNO [United Malays National Organization] president, was speaking to reporters after chairing the UMNO Supreme Council meeting in Kuala Lumpur. Mr. Ghafar, who is concurrently UMNO deputy president, was not present at the news conference. Those present were party vice presidents Datuk Sri Anwar Ibrahim, Datuk Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi,

and Datuk Sri Sanusi Junid, and UMNO Youth Movement leader Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak.

Dr. Mahathir also said UMNO was selecting candidates for a by-election in the Batuk Talam State Legislative Assembly constituency, and UMNO divisions in the state of Pahang would help with campaign activities. He said the party machinery was already prepared for the by-election.

On the recent visits to the country of PLO leader Mr. Yasir 'Arafat and ANC [African National Congress] President Mr. Nelson Mandela, he said the two leaders had given detailed explanations about developments in their respective regions in addition to seeking Malaysia's support for their struggles.

United Sabah National Organization 'Deregistered'

*BK0508141893 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia
Network in Malay 1300 GMT 5 Aug 93*

[Text] USNO [United Sabah National Organization], the oldest political party in Sabah, has been deregistered. Mrs. Zakiah Hashim, registrar of societies, said the party had breached its constitution and failed to give acceptable reasons to her 19 April show-cause letter. Mrs. Zakiah told reporters at her office in Kuala Lumpur that the 2 August deregistration notice had been sent to USNO. The notice also gave USNO 30 days to appeal to Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed as minister of home affairs, as provided for in Section 18 of the 1966 Societies Act. USNO joined the Sabah United Party [PBS] in setting up a coalition government last April.

Meanwhile, Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan said the status of the PBS-USNO coalition government was not affected by the deregistration of USNO. USNO still has 30 days from the day it was deregistered to make an appeal. Until then, the PBS-USNO coalition government will not be affected. Speaking to reporters in Kota Kinabalu, he said PBS believed that USNO had drawn up its own plan to settle the matter.

17% Increase Reported in Manufacturing Sales

*BK0608071993 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0540 GMT 6 Aug 93*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Aug 6 (OANA/BENAMA)—The total value of sales of 58 industries in Malaysia in Jan-May, 1993 amounted to RM39.8 billion [Malaysian ringgit] (U.S.\$1;RM2.5), up by 17.1 percent when compared to sales of RM34.0 billion for the same period, the statistics department said.

Releasing its latest monthly manufacturing statistics today, the department said 20 industries reported total sales value exceeding RM500 million for the said period and their total sales rose 19.7 percent to RM31.5 billion from RM26.4 billion in Jan-May, 1992.

The contribution of these 20 industries was about 79.3 percent of the total sales reported by all the industries covered in the first five months of this year. They included semi conductors and other electronic components and communication equipment and apparatus which recorded the largest sales value of RM10.01 billion during the review period compared to RM8.00 billion previously.

This was followed by radio and television sets and sound reproducing and recording equipment (RM4.54 billion), petroleum refineries (RM2.19 billion) and manufacture of refrigerating, exhaust, ventilating and air-conditioning machinery (RM1.50 billion).

Some of the other manufactures were industrial gases, primary iron and steel industries, plywood, hardboard and particle board mills, manufacture and assembly of motor vehicles, rubber remilling and rubber latex processing, cables and wires, plastic products and clothing factories.

The remaining manufactures comprise spinning, weaving and finishing of textiles, rubber products, printing, publishing and allied industries, hydraulic cement, iron and steel basic industries, office, computing and accounting machinery, dairy products and tobacco.

Specific products which showed a substantial increase in production between Jan-May, 1992 and Jan-May, 1993 were liquefied petroleum gas, plywood, telephone and telegraph cables, rubber gloves, television sets, iron and steel bars and rods, integrated circuits and PVC pipes.

The department also said that a total of 2,132 establishment covered by the survey reported an employment of 624,246 persons for May, 1993 from 555,081 persons in the same month last year.

Singapore

Presidential Election Slated for 28 Aug

BK0408144993 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1400 GMT 4 Aug 93

[Excerpt] The presidential election will be held on the 28th of this month. Nomination day will be the 18th. The prime minister has issued the election writ naming the Singapore Conference Hall as the nomination center.

Candidates have till this Saturday to apply for a certificate of eligibility from the Presidential Election Committee. The committee will [word indistinct] to decide whether a potential candidate is a person of integrity, good character and reputation. It will also (?decide) that he has the experience and ability to administer and manage financial affairs and carry out effectively the functions and duties of the president. The returning officer for the presidential election is Mr. (Ong Kok Ling), the deputy secretary in the Cabinet's Office and

the Prime Minister's Office. Polling day will be declared a public holiday and voting is compulsory. [passage omitted]

State Minister for Education Tay Eng Soon Dies

BK0508120693 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Excerpt] The senior minister of state for education, Dr. Tay Eng Soon, has died. He was 53.

A statement from the Prime Minister's office said Dr. Tay was admitted into the Singapore General Hospital on Monday. He had fever and swelling of the right leg.

Dr. Tay went into a (?brief) heart failure at about 12.30 P.M. [0430 GMT] and died 20 minutes later. In August last year Dr. Tay had a heart bypass. [passage omitted]

Cambodia

UNTAC Chief Decries 'Racist' KR Broadcasts

BK0508143893 Hong Kong AFP in English 0909 GMT 5 Aug 93

[By Kevin Barrington]

[Text] Phnom Penh, Aug 5 (AFP)—The chief of the UN mission in Cambodia criticised Khmer Rouge leaders for inciting the massacre of ethnic Vietnamese and demanded the faction's radio halt racist broadcasts, a spokesman said Thursday. Yasushi Akashi, in a letter to Khmer Rouge nominal leader Khieu Samphan on Wednesday, strongly criticised the faction's racist and inflammatory radio broadcasts, UN spokesman Eric Falt said. Akashi objected to a July 18 broadcast that noted the return of a number of ethnic Vietnamese to the Tonle Sap Lake region, and openly encouraged Cambodian people to stop them.

"The 18 July program can only be read as a new encouragement by the PDK (Party of Democratic Kampuchea or Khmer Rouge) leadership to kill more Vietnamese civilians," Akashi wrote. Some 25,000 ethnic Vietnamese fled to Vietnam to escape a Khmer Rouge campaign of ethnic cleaning in March and April. A number of these people, mostly fishermen and their families, have returned but are stranded near the Cambodian border as Phnom Penh has refused to let them re-enter the country.

Those who have managed to return are concentrated in the northwestern provinces of Kompong Chhang and Pursat near the mouth of the Tonle Sap, the scene of three recent Khmer Rouge-perpetrated massacres which claimed the lives of 11 people, Falt said. There were also more unconfirmed reports of massacres, UN and Vietnamese embassy officials said.

The radical faction's broadcast "constitutes an official backing if not an acceptance of responsibility into the new wave of killings which has hit this community for

the past three weeks," Akashi wrote. A recent UN internal report said the Khmer Rouge were moving guerrillas into the Tonle Sap area in response to the returning Vietnamese. Akashi wrote that a number of independent inquiries had found units from the Khmer Rouge 785 division were behind the resurgence of ethnic violence.

The UN chief said he understood the serious concerns of the Cambodian population towards "uncontrolled immigration of Vietnamese civilians looking for work." But the problem must be solved in a responsible manner by the government "through the adoption of laws and texts" regulating the status of ethnic minorities and foreign residents, he said.

Akashi told Khieu Samphan that the overwhelming turnout for May's UN-organised polls in the face of threats of violence and intimidation represented an unambiguous rejection of war and violence and highlighted the people's aspirations to peace. "Those who did not understand or do not want to take into account this essential message of the elections condemn themselves to isolation and marginalisation and eventually to destruction," he said.

Akashi also reminded the Khmer Rouge leader that his faction had put its signature to several international human rights covenants and demanded a halt to broadcasts inciting hatred and violence and to the guerrillas attacks on civilians. "The attitude of the international community toward the PDK in the important coming months will depend on its will to conduct itself in a responsible fashion," Akashi concluded. The Khmer Rouge are seeking a role in the government and armed forces and their inclusion was scheduled to be the subject of discussions between the radical faction and the government late September. The United States has expressed reluctance to grant aid to a government that includes the Khmer Rouge.

SRV 'Murder Squad' Said Targeting FUNCINPEC

BK0608014093 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Excerpt] Reports from Pursat Province say that the Vietnamese aggressors have set up a company-sized murder squad to kill and repress members of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party and the people suspected of supporting FUNCINPEC.

The reports say that this murder squad uses every means to track down FUNCINPEC members and FUNCINPEC supporters. Afterwards, ways are found to kill these persons, for example killing them in fake robberies, assassinating them along roads, running them over on the roads, or executing them when they go out to work.

As a matter of fact, on 15 July agents from this murder squad killed two FUNCINPEC members who were plowing land in (Tuol Mak Prea) in Russei Krang Commune, Moug District, Battambang Province. On 16 July, another group of members from this murder squad arrested and executed four persons in (Chahuoy) village, (Thmar Peng) Commune, who voted for FUNCINPEC. On 17 July, another six FUNCINPEC members in Roluoh and O Krabau villages in Moug commune, Moug District, were arrested and tortured for more information. These persons later had their eyes gouged out and were bayoneted to death in a most cruel and fascist manner. [passage omitted]

13 Officers Said Killed in Kompong Thom Mutiny

BK0608011893 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Excerpt] Sources in Kompong Thom provincial town say that on 3 August puppet troops of Regiment 96 in Kompong Thom town mutinied and attacked local military and police command posts. These troops drove tanks and opened fire on puppet military and police officers, killing 13 and wounding more than 20 of these brutal men.

The reports say that the reasons for the mutiny by these troops are:

1. Cruel Vietnamese leaders and puppets keep forcing these troops to fight the Cambodian national resistance forces, people, and the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party. This causes Cambodian blood to flow daily.
2. In the home towns of these puppet troops—for example, in Svay Rieng, Prey Veng, and Kompong Cham—the Vietnamese and their puppets have brought more and more of their men, who make up 80-90 percent of the population. This is making the Cambodian people in these areas poorer and poorer. [passage omitted on repression by puppet troops and police]

Foreign Minister Meets World Bank Official 4 Aug

BK0508151993 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Text] In response to an appeal by His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, to the World Bank to provide aid to Cambodia, Mr. (Bradley Obaton), head of the bank's Bangkok-based Asian regional office, visited Cambodia in early August.

At a meeting on 4 August with the World Bank envoy in the presence of Mr. (Matthew Watt), UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] representative, Prince Norodom Sirivut, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, warmly welcomed the World

Bank delegation's visit to Cambodia and expressed hope that the World Bank would provide aid for the reconstruction of Cambodia in the near future. The prince added that he was confident that setting up a permanent World Bank office would promote cooperation between Cambodia and the bank.

In his reply, Mr. (Bradley Obatton) thanked the prince for his warm welcome. He invited a Cambodian delegation to the World Bank meeting to be held in Washington in September this year. However, the World Bank representative added that there should be an unofficial meeting between a Cambodian delegation and a Bangkok-based World Bank representative beforehand. This is aimed at creating favorable conditions for the Cambodian delegation to more clearly understand the mechanism of operations carried out by the bank with various countries.

The World Bank's representative also plans to meet and discuss development and reconstruction of Cambodia with representatives of other ministries.

Minister Departs for Funeral, To Meet EC Envoys

BK0508152593 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Text] Prince Norodom Sirivut, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, left Phnom Penh on 5 August to attend the funeral of King Baudouin of Belgium in Brussels as the representative of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodian head of state, and Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh and His Excellency Hun Sen, cochairmen of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia. While in Brussels, the prince plans to meet with officials from the EC. On his way home he will pay an unofficial visit to France where he will meet with French officials.

Ranariddh Meets Philippine Envoy 4 Aug

BK0508130593 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Text] Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh, cochairman of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia [PNGC], received His Excellency Josua L. Villa, special envoy of the Philippines to Cambodia, at his residence on the afternoon of 4 August. The prince told the Philippine representative that the situation in Cambodia at present is remarkably favorable for foreign investments that aim at making a contribution to developing Cambodia's economy.

Commenting on the Khmer Rouge problem, Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh denounced the Khmer Rouge's hostile activities against the Cambodian National Armed Forces and destruction of state property, such as the railroad, last week. The prince stressed

that no matter what happens, the PNGC would envision possibilities to hold talks with the Khmer Rouge in order to put an end to hostility between Cambodians, thereby preserving the country from ruin.

Indonesia

Editorial Considers ASEAN Support for Cambodian Settlement

BK0608074793 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 17 Jul 93 p 4

[Editorial: "ASEAN Should Support Cambodian National Reconciliation"]

[Text] Cambodia is currently on the threshold of national reconciliation. The most important question, which should be directed speedily toward the solution, is related to the addition of the Cambodian Democratic Party—also known as the Khmer Rouge—to the new Cambodian Government. Such a move is important because details of its implementation could be carried out in stages via a rhythm that would not lead to further dissension.

This should be a strong alternative in trying not to further aggravate the Khmer Rouge in its advancement toward reconciliation. The firm move should similarly act as a shield which could prevent further disarray or the emergence of a breakaway faction in opposition to the Khmer Rouge's current sentiment for peace.

The other question—which is of an international nature—is the wavering attitude of certain countries which are reluctant to offer their services or render assistance to the new government if there is any Khmer Rouge participation. Viewing it from one angle, such an attitude could be clearly understood because the candidates from the donor countries would be held responsible for any action in connection with the decisions made by their respective parliaments with regard to Khmer Rouge involvement in the new government.

Looking at another angle, such an attitude should be regretted because the considerations were based on the history of the Khmer Rouge. Such an attitude of continuously ostracizing the Khmer Rouge—without even giving it an opportunity to turn over a new leaf and which could possibly offer positive contributions toward the development of a peaceful Cambodia—is considered unfair. Numerous other totalitarian regimes, which were far more genocidal compared to the Khmer Rouge, had been gracefully accepted by the international community.

Even Hun Sen himself, who is the acclaimed arch-rival of the Khmer Rouge and currently a co-leader of the new temporary coalition government—had remarked that alien countries should not manipulate their foreign assistance as a means of brushing aside the Khmer Rouge.

In fact, the Khmer Rouge's positive role could prove to be the most valuable asset at the district and provincial levels, but not at the national level. This could be clearly observed through the Khmer Rouge's proven ability with political or military issues within the interior regions. As such, The Khmer Rouge should be afforded a respectful place at the national level.

The proposal of a roundtable meeting in September is a good idea. The meeting will discuss the issue of the Khmer Rouge's official position in the government. The leaders who will participate in this meeting are Prince Norodom Sihanouk as the national leader, Hun Sen and Prince Ranariddh as leaders of the provisional coalition government, Son Sann as the chairman of the National Council, and Khieu Samphan as leader of the Khmer Rouge.

With such a format, the Khmer Rouge would be in the interim government. This would be prestigious for the Khmer Rouge because it would be accepted for dialogue with a government and national council—not with a faction. Unquestionably, the Khmer Rouge was cunning in the sense that it allowed the other factions to form a government first and then moved to liase with them. Its timing was considered perfect, because the important factor was the Khmer Rouge would be the deciding factor of whether the new regime would receive international assistance or otherwise from countries such as the United States and France.

The Khmer Rouge carried out a crafty but peaceful offensive when Cambodia was in dire need of two most important factors: national reconciliation and international aid. In such a situation, Sihanouk, Ranariddh, Hun Sen and Son Sann would actively employ diplomatic overtures in persuading the representatives of the donor nations to not be too harsh on the Khmer Rouge. This would be the anticipatory measures of the four Cambodian leaders on the agenda for the upcoming international meeting. First, Sihanouk would probably hold consultations with China and Beijing was expected to render assistance through its influence as a permanent member in the United Nations Security Council.

ASEAN and its other regional neighbors besides Cambodia—particularly Vietnam—should be vocal or make suggestions concerning Cambodia's development. This is to prevent the national reconciliation and peace process in Cambodia from being dictated by others—particularly by the Western countries.

The suggestions should be initiated through each country's domestic political process, then brought to the official level, and then continued at the level leading to the final issuance of an ASEAN multilateral joint communique.

Meanwhile, the Khmer Rouge should end all atrocities on Cambodians of Vietnamese origin. This is the suggestion, not because of wanting to be on the side of Vietnam or those who suffered were Vietnamese, but solely because such actions blatantly violate human rights.

However, the current development in Cambodia represents a good example of how a national conflict escalated to the level of a regional issue, and then an international conflict which could be peacefully settled through arduous dialogue, laborous diplomatic endeavors, extensive financing, and endless effort. Only one thing remains to be achieved, which is achievement of total national reconciliation which would prove to be an exemplary success. Toward this objective, ASEAN and all of Southeast Asia should truly render their assistance as an international gesture.

Foreign Minister Urges Adhering to Nuclear Ban

BK0608015193 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 6 Aug 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas spoke at a ceremony marking the 30th anniversary of the signing of the nuclear test ban agreement in the air, space, and sea in Jakarta yesterday. He said Indonesia hopes that all countries, which are signatories to the agreement, would adhere to the regulations called for in the agreement.

He said, even though there was no mention about banning underground nuclear tests, the agreement forms a historical (?event) in the effort to control nuclear tests because this agreement was the first of its kind to be signed between countries competing in the nuclear weapons race.

Minister Ali Alatas hoped that the agreement will not be rescinded for the sake of establishing global peace.

Ex-Minister Optimistic on Oil Standard Price

BK0508134793 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1141 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Text] Jakarta, Aug 5 (OANA-ANTARA)—Former minister of mines and energy Subroto said that the crude oil standard price of 18 US dollars stipulated in the 1993/94 national budget will be achieved despite the price in the world markets is slowing down. After a meeting with the head of state here on Thursday, Subroto, who is also OPEC secretary general, said that his optimism was on the grounds that the crude oil price will be hiking in the next few months.

"The price of minas crude oil currently stands at 19 US dollars will remain in the position," he added.

Subroto who was accompanied by Minister of Mines and Energy I.B. Sujana said that the hike of oil price will begin the fourth quarter of this year (October to December) and the first quarter of 1994.

The optimism, he said, was also on the reasons that the consumption of oil will be increased when consumer countries face northern winter season. He revealed that in the middle term presumption, the coming back of Iraq to the world oil market will add more supply of the crude oil.

Iraq and the U.N are to negotiate on a U.N proposal under which Baghdad would be allowed to sell 1.6 billion dollars' worth of oil to generate income for humanitarian needs.

PDI Extraordinary Congress Still in Question

BK0508125993 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1102 GMT 5 Aug 93

[By E. Aditya Nugraha]

[Text] Jakarta, Aug 5 (OANA-ANTARA)—Controversies over whether or not the proposed extraordinary congress would solve the Indonesian Democratic Party's (PDI) internal problems are becoming more tense following political statements from the government and disputing camps.

Suryadi's insistence on keeping his position as the re-elected chairman resulted in the party's congress in Medan last month triggered assumptions that the internal conflicts would not be so easy to solve. [sentence as received]

Suryadi hinted that he would defend his re-election despite the government's apparent sponsorship of a new party congress.

The election of Suryadi was on the second day of the congress or about 72 hours faster than the schedule.

The congress, later, was left in chaos, when members of PDI transitional executive board and group of 18 took over it. Members of PDI's executive board and the group of 18 after Suryadi's re-election asked Suryadi to resign as the congress was launched in disorder manner.

Home Affairs Minister Yogi S. Memet, after meeting with two groups of PDI leaders, has declared the congress of the party a failure. He said that it was necessary to set up a caretaker board in charge of making preparations for an extraordinary congress in effort to end the party's crisis caused by the chaotic congress.

The outgoing PDI secretary general Nico Daryanto opposed the government's proposal, saying that the Medan's congress was legitimate as the party needed no other congress.

On the contrary, Suryadi's opponent of the transitional and the group of 18 directly welcomed the government's proposal on a new congress.

Such proposed congress believed to be hosted by Jakarta's PDI branch has created new debates on whether the government has intervened into the party's affairs.

Yogi said that if the party's problems threaten national stability the government will intervene, whether or not it is asked to do so.

"As PDI is a national asset and vital force in the development, the government want to save PDI. The government will act as soon as possible in order to avoid chaos," he added.

The minister said that there was a vacuum in the leadership of the party as the party's central board which was established in 1986 had completed its tenure in 1991.

"But, I should say that the board was not necessarily about to fall apart," he stressed.

The vacuum, he said, has impacted the functioning of the party's representatives in the parliament.

"PDI's faction members in the parliament should abide by the policies formulated by the previous central board," he said.

Analysts assumed that the forming of caretaker board would also create problems if its members could not represent disputing camps.

Yogi said that the caretaker board should be from those who consider that the congress was a failure.

He did not mention names, but said that they should be consulted with him.

"If I'm not happy with a name because the person has legal defect or other flaws, then I'll ask to have them changed," he stressed.

Such statement has been assumed to be the government's way to "dispose" Suryadi and his gang from the current position. On the assumption, the minister repeatedly denied that the government had engineered to fall Suryadi.

"We have never been behind this. The truth of the matter is that several of PDI's distinguished members came to my office appealing for the government's intervention to resolve the party's crisis," he said.

PDI was established in 1973 following the fusion of five small political parties.

Over the last five years, the party has been able to achieve more seats in the parliament and also become the party for the younger generation.

The internal conflicts appeared to be somewhat the party's habit since its fusion in 1973.

People believe that the extraordinary congress should bridge ideas of disputing camps to create a national reconciliation.

Soldiers Kill Two Aceh Separatists in Clash

BK0408123693 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 28 Jul 93 p 2

[Text] Medan, North Sumatera—Two members of an armed separatist movement in Aceh were killed in a

clash between a rebel group and Armed Forces (ABRI) troops near a village in Matangkuli subdistrict, North Aceh last week.

Lieutenant L. Hutabarat, a spokesman for the Bukit Barisan Military Command, which deals with security in West and North Sumatera, Riau and Aceh provinces, told THE JAKARTA POST here yesterday, that eight other members of the rebel group were injured in the armed skirmish but they managed to escape.

The authorities confiscated three guns and hundreds of pieces of ammunition from the rebels.

The ABRI troops intercepted the rebels while they set up their camp after robbing the local people from the nearby village. The troops and the rebels began fighting after the rebels ignored the warning demanding their surrender. Instead the rebels responded by initiating the shooting.

The two dead rebels were identified as Ahmad Musa, alias Ahmad Kostrad, 34, a former member of the Army Strategic Command (KOSTRAD) and Bustamar, 36.

Colonel Sridono, chief of the local military command, and North Aceh regent Karimuddin called on the separatists hiding in the jungle to surrender and encouraged civilians not to be afraid of the rebels. "ABRI will continue its military operations against the rebel movement," Sridono said.

Laos

Paper Decries Mass Media 'Distortion' on Human Rights

BK0608043793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Article from 5 August PASASON: "Just Rights of All Lao Citizens Have Been Protected"]

[Text] All laboring people of all tribes and all strata enjoy the right to collective mastery in their territorial integrity in the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. It is the people who have determined all rights and power. The Lao people exercise their rights through their National Assembly members, whom they elected. At the same time, all citizens maintain the right to take part in carrying out and following up the management of state work. They also maintain the right to control all state organizations's activities through various mass organizations. For the state, it has always striven to guarantee the rights to collective mastery of the laboring people in the political, economic, cultural, and social fields.

Human rights or equality in society have been implemented all along in an appropriate and equitable manner under the leadership of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] and Government of the LPDR. The fundamental rights and obligations of all Lao citizens, as clearly stipulated in chapter three of the Constitution which was unanimously endorsed in the sixth ordinary

session of the second Supreme People's Assembly on 14 August 1991, have been explicitly implemented since the enforcement of the Constitution of the LPDR. It can be seen that all Lao citizens, regardless of tribes, sexes, ages, classes, levels of cultural understanding, or religions, enjoy equal rights in view of the laws—especially following the management of state through the implementation of laws during the aforesaid period. Based on this fact, our people have gradually come to understand that in earning a living and carrying out their activities, it is impossible for them to do anything beyond the limit of the laws. They have now come to understand that the country can survive only when laws are upheld. Any Lao citizen, or any foreign resident in Laos, who has appropriately implemented fundamental rights and obligations, will certainly achieve benefits in a reasonable manner in return. On the contrary, those who have violated the regulations, laws, or the people's rights to mastery, the violation which leads to disturbances in society or affects administration, or those who have made themselves to be enemies of the nation and people, will certainly be punished in accordance with the laws of our country. This is natural, because all countries in the world also follow this practice. But, it is regrettable that a certain international organization, together with a number of mass media, have tried to distort the Lao Government's good intentions in guaranteeing the rights and obligations of the Lao citizens. They have deliberately sabotaged national unity and concord and created disagreement in consciousness between the masses and the party and state. By so doing, they have actually interfered in the internal affairs of our country.

All our multiethnic Lao people, both at home and abroad, are generous, broad-minded, and friendly to everyone by tradition. They also maintain a considerably high level of legal sense. They normally avoid violent incidents, which might affect their honor and prestige as well as the prestige of the nation. These are the specific, fine characters of our Lao people. But, to promote and expand these characters, we Lao people cannot ignore unfriendly, ill-intentioned words of bad elements. All problems concerning the national prestige, including the problem on the implementation of human rights in Laos, must be determined by the multiethnic Lao people themselves.

Saman Vi-gnaket, Delegation Return From DPRK

BK0408143993 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1400 GMT 4 Aug 93

[Text] After visiting the DPRK for more than a week to participate in the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Korean people's liberation war, our high-level party and state delegation headed by Comrade Saman Vi-gnaket, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the National Assembly, returned home on 2 August.

During its stay in the DPRK, our high-level party and state delegation laid a wreath at the monument to revolutionary Korean soldiers; attended a parade staged by the armed forces and people of the DPRK; visited the revolutionary museum; participated in a ceremony to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the victory of the DPRK liberation war; and visited a dam, the (?demilitarized zone) at Panmunjom village on the border of South and North Korea, a computer center, a youth (?palace), and a revolutionary museum on the [words indistinct].

Saman Vi-gnaket also met with the prime minister and chairman of the National Assembly, and several important figures of the DPRK.

Philippines

Taiwan To Lend \$24 Million for Subic Improvement

HK0508153093 Quezon City ABC-DWET Television in Tagalog 1000 GMT 5 Aug 93

[From the "ABC-DWET News Program"]

[Text] Subic Bay Authority Development Authority Chairman Richard Gordon will sign tomorrow with the Taiwan Export-Import Bank for a loan of \$24 million. Gordon said the amount is the initial amount programmed for the improvement of facilities at the former U.S. naval base.

Trade and Industry Secretary Rizalino Navarro said Taiwan also has promised to lend another \$100 million to local industries. He added that more than 30 Taiwanese companies are ready to invest in the Philippines, especially in construction and in supermarkets and hotels.

MNLF, MILF Express Support for Amnesty Program

HK0308134993 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 3 Aug 93

[Text] Two groups from the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front [MILF] today expressed support for the amnesty program of the Ramos administration. House of Representatives Speaker Jose de Venecia said the two groups include seven MNLF commanders who trained in Libya and 17 MILF commanders—who have more than 1,000 followers. De Venecia said in a meeting with the rebel groups that President Fidel Ramos is set to issue the amnesty proclamation granting total, unconditional, and general amnesty to rebels as recommended by Congress.

MNLF Chairman Reiterates Fear Talks Could Fail

HK0508002493 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 1100 GMT 4 Aug 93

[Text] Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] Chairman Nur Misuari reiterated today his fears that the peace talks between the MNLF and the government could collapse. He said the two sides may fail to sustain the peace process owing to the lack of sincerity on both sides. Misuari added that the government and the rebel group have not reached any agreement on the terms of the formal peace talks. The MNLF chairman thus said he would form a committee that would conduct negotiations with military officials in Mindanao to end the government forces' offensive on rebels in the region.

Foreign Debt Rises 6.7 Percent in 1st Quarter

HK0608024093 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 6 Aug 93 pp 1, 6

[Report by Ramoncito P. Dela Cruz]

[Text] Together with the expansion of the domestic debt stock, the country's foreign debt obligations also kept on growing during the first quarter of the year.

Based on the latest data provided by the Bangko Sentral (BS) [central bank], the aggregate liabilities of both public and private entities rose by 6.7% to \$33.018 billion as of end-March from \$30.934 billion last December. Based on a month-on-month comparison, the foreign debt increased by \$1.059 billion last March from \$31.959 billion by the end of February.

The BS attributed the debt increment to increased availments during the three-month period of medium- and long-term loans, mostly from the World Bank (WB) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), as well as short-term credits through the Revolving Trade Facility.

The bulk of the new loans availed from the multinational financial agencies—which amounted to \$831 million—includes the release of the first tranche of the \$200-million WB-Japan Eximbank [Export-Import Bank] economic integration loan and the final draw-down for the IMF's standby arrangement program.

Also, during this period, the Philippine Government launched its \$150-million Eurobond on the international money market, marking the country's return to the voluntary capital market after almost 10 years of absence.

Other public borrowings, totalling \$23.294 billion, were loans sourced by government-owned and -controlled corporations (GOCCs), specifically the National Power Corporation (Napocor). On the other hand, borrowings by the private sector contracted by \$2.666 billion, settling at \$3.757 billion from \$6.423 billion at the end of last year.

On the financial front, the central bank's foreign debt grew to \$2.380 billion; while the commercial banks' exposure went up to \$2.555 billion with a marked increase in the utilization of foreign currency deposit units. Aside from actual increments, the country's foreign debt burden was exacerbated by the appreciation of the Japanese yen vis-a-vis the U.S. dollar. A \$613-million revaluation adjustment had to be made during the period because of this.

Other aspects of the country's foreign debt profile are as follows:

- By institutional creditor: \$6.723 billion from foreign commercial banks; \$331 million from other financial institutions; \$2.983 million from direct suppliers; \$7.590 billion from multilateral institutions; and \$12.393 billion from the bilateral corporations.
- By country: \$10.239 billion from Japan; \$7.476 billion from the United States; \$857 million from France; \$729 million from Germany; and \$695 million from the United Kingdom.

On the other hand, the Government was able to trim down on its debt exposure by \$19 million as it was able to implement various debt reduction schemes during the period.

As of last June, the country's domestic debt stood at P537.625 [Philippine pesos] billion from P508.278 billion as of last December.

Thailand

Officials on Talks With U.S. Over Movie Imports

BK0608093793 Bangkok PHU CHATKAN in Thai
6 Aug 93 pp 1, 7

[Text] Phatchara Itsarasena, permanent secretary to the commerce minister, has met with the U.S. trade representative in Geneva outside the Uruguay Round of GATT talks. After returning from his meeting, he disclosed that Thailand has not made a final decision concerning the U.S. demand for a reduction of the import tax on foreign movies. Past rounds of negotiations were only aimed at exchanges of proposals by the two sides.

The United States cited a letter from Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon sent in June in which the minister agreed to arrange the tax reduction for imported films. It said that because of the letter, the United States decided to postpone action against Thailand for one month under Section 301 of the U.S. Trade Law.

Phatchara said the Thai side has requested that the United States increase the import quotas for a few Thai products, such as textile goods, under category HS 5406

in exchange for the tax reduction. He expects that the two sides will be able to reach an agreement before 31 August.

He added: "The United States attaches great significance to this issue because it feels that the Thai tax is much higher than that charged by other ASEAN countries. However, the Thai side will have to study the pros and cons of the tax readjustment and determine whether it is worth doing."

Asked if his delegation was aware of the existence of the letter the U.S. side cited in its allegation that Thailand has failed to honor the commerce minister's promise, Phatchara replied that Thailand will probably be unable to eliminate the import tax on foreign films as requested by the United States. If the Thai import tax on foreign films remains unchanged, however, the United States will definitely retain Thailand on the Priority Foreign Country (PFC) watchlist.

Phatchara said he had not seen the letter sent by Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon to U.S. Trade Representative [USTR] Mickey Kantor before the U.S. side showed it to him.

Suchai Chaowisit, acting director general of the Intelligence Property Department, said the letter sent to the USTR by Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon was nothing secret. The United States contacted the Finance Ministry over the issue three or four years ago.

Uthai Phimchaichon told PHUCHATKAN in Osaka that he sent the letter to the United States. The letter was drafted by Suchai and he signed it; it was nothing confidential.

Suchai reaffirmed that everyone in the Thai delegation sent to this round of talks with the United States knows about the letter. It was impossible to give copies of the results of the negotiations to reporters, however, because some things must be kept confidential.

Suchai said: "The Commerce Ministry has assigned me to handle this issue. After seeking consultations with the permanent secretary of the Finance Ministry, it has been agreed that this issue will be brought up for discussion during the Uruguay Round of talks. Meanwhile, Thailand is unable to accept the U.S. demand that the issue be included in the framework [preceding word in English] because the obligation is too rigid." He noted that the delegation has agreed to forward the U.S. demand in this regard to the government agencies concerned for further consideration.

Suchai continued: "It is anticipated that the United States will certainly remove Thailand from the PFC watchlist before 31 August, because Thailand has complied with all the U.S. demands. In fact, it is the government's policy to reduce the import tax on foreign films. It is believed that there will be no more talks between the two countries on this issue."

Phaichit Suphawari, president of the National Motion Picture Federation and representative of Thai film producers, said he has not received a report from the Commerce Ministry on new developments regarding readjustment of the import tax on foreign films.

He said: "The government has not considered the impact. Thailand imports films not only from the United States but also from Hong Kong and the EC countries. If we reduce the tax on U.S. films, we must do the same for films from other countries."

The tax reduction will benefit the Hollywood film industry and also encourage the importation of Hong Kong movies, which are even more formidable than those from Hollywood.

In 1992, a total of 315 foreign films—240 from Hong Kong and 75 from the United States—were shown in Thailand. Eighty percent of the films were imported while the other 20 percent were distributed by a chain company of the (Major) Company.

The (Major) Company's associates include the Columbia, 20th Century Fox, Warner, Walt Disney, Metro, and Paramount Companies.

Phaichit disclosed that the (Major) Company earns no less than 10 million baht from each film it shows in Thailand. Can these foreign companies not afford to pay an import tax of less than 100,000 baht for each film sent to Thailand? They have been earning so much from this country.

Phaichit said: "Foreign films are making a lot of money in Thailand. A small amount of money paid for import tax should not create any problem. Thai film producers have never called for any ban on foreign films. The United States should have studied this issue thoroughly before making the demand. It should not listen to a few Thai politicians and officials."

In addition to the negotiations with the U.S. side on import tax on foreign films, the Thai delegation led by Phatchara Itsarasena also held talks with officials of the World Intellectual Organization Property (WIPO) concerning a few legal aspects of the Paris version of the Berne Convention. As a signatory, it is necessary for Thailand to know if its laws on intellectual property protection conform with the provisions of the convention. The issues of discussion were:

When Thailand became a signatory to the Berne Convention—the Berlin version of 1928 [as published]—it registered a request for a six-point legal reservation. WIPO officials were consulted as to whether the request was automatically nullified by the later promulgation of relevant laws.

Thailand's request on the translation right implies that if a literary work has not been translated into Thai for a period of 10 years, any person can do the translation without having to pay the copyright holder of the literary work. According to the Paris version of the Berne

Convention, after one or two years, anybody can do the vernacular translation of the work without seeking prior permission from the copyright holder, who is still entitled to compensation fee. Therefore, Thailand has two alternatives to choose. But most countries have chosen the second option.

WIPO officials were asked if it is necessary to seek prior permission from copyright holders before their music and video tapes are played in public.

As there has not been any clear-cut decision on how to handle computer software, the Thai delegation proposed that the laws governing the protection of software should be flexible. Thailand plans to invite WIPO specialists to work with Thai legal experts on computer software protection laws.

Eliminating Tax 'Probably Impossible'

BK0608135893 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 6 Aug 93

[Text] Finance Minister Tharin Nimanhaemin disclosed that the readjustment of import tax on foreign films will not affect the government's revenue because the tax brings in only about 8 million baht annually [approximately 307,000 U.S. dollars]. However, it is probably impossible to yield to the U.S. demand for a complete elimination of the tax. The finance minister said the import tax on foreign films must be reduced and readjusted because it will help remove Thailand from the U.S. Priority Foreign Country watchlist. He anticipates that the two countries will be able to settle the problem.

Deputy Premier Comments

BK0608055993 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0000 GMT 6 Aug 93

[Text] Speaking with newsmen, Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak said the U.S. wish for Thailand to reduce duties on movies is under negotiation. In the negotiations, Thailand will hold to the principle that movie film is an intellectual property product which must be negotiated in the framework of the Uruguay Round. If Thailand reduces the duties, it will be done on an international basis. That is, duty reduction will be applied to films from all countries. Thailand will negotiate with the countries which benefit from the duty reduction to open their markets to more Thai products.

The deputy prime minister said that as far as the Thai Government is concerned, the proposal to exempt duties on film completely is difficult to comply with because it will involve enactment of laws and imply the Thai Government's acceptance of a zero-tax policy, which currently applies to only a few products. Meanwhile, setting the film duty rate will have to await the results of the negotiation.

Suphachai said reduction of film duties would not directly affect the Thai film industry, but the government will try to assist the Thai film industry whenever possible.

U.S. Offer To Cut Textile Tariffs Viewed

*BK0608011593 Bangkok THE NATION in English
6 Aug 93 p B1*

[By Atchara Phongwutthitham]

[Text] US trade officials have offered to cut tariffs on certain Thai textile and garment imports to zero in exchange for the Thai Government deleting tariffs on motion picture imports.

Speaking on his return from Geneva where he attended the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) talks, Permanent Secretary of Commerce Phatchara Itsrasena said Washington offered to cut tariffs on certain textile and garment exports, which are currently subject to a tariff of 17 per cent. However the Thai Government would have to yield to US Trade Representative Mickey Kantor's demand to abolish the duty on exposed film imports.

A tariff of Bt [baht] 30 a metre is now imposed on exposed film imports, meaning an importer has to pay on average Bt80,000 to Bt100,000 for a movie. Movies range between 2,500 metres to 3,000 metres in length.

Last week at a meeting in Washington DC, Kantor asked Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchapak for an answer to the US request on the tariff cut within 30 days. Apart from the improved protection on intellectual property rights, Kantor also raised the motion picture tariff cut as a condition for removing Thailand from the US priority foreign country (PFC) watch list—its most serious classification.

Following Suphachai's meeting with Kantor, Phatchara flew to Geneva to attend the WIPO meeting and also to pursue talks with US trade officials over the intellectual property dispute.

Phatchara said that the Thai Government has yet to reply to the US demand as the Cabinet has still to consider it. But Bangkok believes that the tariff cut should be discussed at the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) multilateral trade forum.

He added that the government has to study possible impacts from the trade-off on tariff reductions before replying to US officials on Aug 30.

Phatchara said the tariff cut affected not only exposed film. Officials also have to consider whether it has to cut duty on audio equipment and raw film along with the motion picture imports.

"This is to maintain the competitiveness of local producers against the cheaper imports," Phatchara said.

About 10 percent of film imports come from the United States, while about 80 percent is from Hong Kong.

Kantor is reportedly prepared to upgrade Thailand from the PFC list to the less serious priority watch list (PWL) by the end of this month. According to Suphachai, Kantor has praised Bangkok for its efforts to eradicate copyright violations and the introduction of the copyright bill.

But Kantor was concerned about certain aspects of the copyright bill, especially computer software protection. Washington interpreted those provisions as countering the Paris Act of the Berne Convention—the international agreement on intellectual property.

'Diplomatic Campaign' Against UNTAC Allegations

Foreign Minister Responds

*BK0608012393 Bangkok THE NATION in English
6 Aug 93 pp A1, A2*

[Text] Thailand has launched a diplomatic campaign to counter UN allegations that the country is backing the Khmer Rouge in violation of the UN peace agreement for Cambodia, Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said yesterday.

"Phnom Penh-based Thai Ambassador Sunai Bunyasi-riphan will hold a press conference for the media in Cambodia to inform them of the actual facts of the incident," Prasong said.

"The envoy will also send a written message to UNTAC chief Yasushi Akashi to reiterate the Thai military's noninvolvement in the incident."

The Thai ambassador in New York had also been instructed to explain the actual events to other ambassadors based there.

The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) should be grateful for Thailand's help instead of wrongly accusing it of assisting the Khmer Rouge, the minister said.

Prasong stressed the Paris peace agreement did not prohibit any country from having contacts with the Khmer Rouge. Any contact between Thais and the Marxist faction which did not have a commercial purpose did not violate the terms of the accord.

"Why can't Thailand have contact with the Khmer Rouge, which is still a member of Cambodia's Supreme National Council. We have communicated with it on the basis that it is in the SNC," Prasong said.

The minister said UNTAC should have more respect for Thai assistance which has been given since the beginning of its operation in Cambodia, such as provision of land and air routes for its mission.

UNTAC officials early this week accused the Thai military of inaction while the Khmer Rouge captured 21 UN peacekeepers over the weekend. Spokesman Eric Falt said the incident occurred on Thai territory and in the presence of Thai troops.

Spokeswoman Susan Manuel said it was the first time peacekeepers had been captured by Khmer Rouge operating inside Thailand and UNTAC considered the matter to be serious. UNTAC also said that Thai military officers had dined with the Khmer Rouge unit.

The guerrillas freed the UN peacekeepers on Sunday evening.

"If the report that Thai military personnel dined with the Marxist faction is true it does not matter, as the peace agreement does not prohibit having dinner with the Khmer Rouge," Prasong said.

Prasong said UNTAC had several times violated Thai regulations, especially where aviation was concerned. UNTAC spokesmen should be more careful when commenting on Thailand and should not issue any more biased and baseless accusations.

The minister said, tongue-in-cheek that he would invite Falt to dinner and provide a warm welcome if he ever visits Thailand.

Defense Minister, Army Chief Respond

BK0508141093 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Text] Defense Minister General Wichit Sukmak said there must be some misunderstanding on the part of the UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] official who said that a Thai general was involved in the capture of UNTAC officials by the Khmer Rouge. He said:

[Begin recording] [Wichit] The UNTAC officials probably did not know whether the area is inside Thailand or Cambodia. Normally, their checkpoints must be situated inside Cambodian territory. The incident took place inside Cambodia.

[Unidentified reporter] They said a major general went to talk to the Khmer Rouge.

[Wichit] If no negotiations were held, they would not yet have been released by the Khmer Rouge. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Army Commander General Wimon Wongwanit said the Army always supports UN resolutions and recognizes all the Khmer factions impartially. It is impossible that it will side with any particular faction.

Russia Rejects Paying for Rice by Trade Account

BK0508134193 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Text] Russia has rejected repayment for Thai rice through opening a two-way trade account. Russia said that payment for 700,000 tons of Thai rice by opening this type of account is a payment method it plans to discontinue. It instead proposed a reciprocal trade system or long term credits. Moreover, Russia plans to send a ministerial-level delegation to visit Thailand to strengthen ties as there have been no visits by Thai leaders.

According to a report from Government House, earlier the International Economic Policy Committee approved trade with Russia by opening a two-way trade account. In the event that Thailand sold rice to Russia in exchange for Russian products that Thailand desired, the account would be debited. The committee hoped that the two consignments of rice sold to Russia totalling 700,000 tons—the payment for the first consignment of 300,000 tons valued at \$63 million was due in March and payment for the second consignment of 400,000 tons worth \$200 million is due in early 1994—would be paid by way of opening a two-way trade account.

The report noted that the Thai ambassador to Moscow and the Russian minister of international economic relations met recently to discuss the payment of \$63 million, which is already due. There was no response from Russia. Moreover, Russia said it rejected the Thai proposal for trade by opening a two-way trade account because it intended to replace the practice with reciprocal trade and long term credits.

Prime Minister Receives PRC's Qiao Shi

BK0608093193 Bangkok ZHONG HUA RIBAO in Chinese 6 Aug 93 p 8

[Text] Qiao Shi, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress [NPC], paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Chuan Likphai at Government House yesterday morning. During their cordial and friendly talks, the two sides stressed that the frequent exchanges of visits between their officials in recent years had helped strengthen close relations and cooperation in various fields, especially the economic field.

On the occasion, NPC Standing Committee Chairman Qiao Shi conveyed Chinese Premier Li Peng's best regards to Prime Minister Chuan. Qiao Shi also said that the Chinese Government will warmly welcome Prime Minister Chuan when the latter visits China by the end of this month.

Qiao Shi said that Chuan's visit to China will further strengthen the close relations between the two countries. Prime Minister Chuan praised China's economy, which has registered the highest growth rate in the world.

Qiao Shi also spoke highly of Thailand's rapid economic development. Before coming to Bangkok, he observed that Thailand's hinterland also has convenient facilities. He is a native of Shanghai. He will follow the example of Bangkok in developing Shanghai when he returns to China.

The two sides agreed that joint efforts by all parties concerned to build a transportation network linking northern Thailand, China's southwestern province of Yunnan, Burma, and Laos will be conducive to and accelerate the development of these four countries.

Cabinet Approves Aviation Agreement With Vietnam

BK0608093593 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday approved an agreement on aviation between Thailand and Vietnam as proposed by the Ministry of Transport and Communications. The agreement was made at the conclusion of negotiations during which Vietnam expressed its desire for an office to be set up in both countries. Thailand and Vietnam also agreed on the free market system and cooperation on other issues. The agreement also allows both partners to lease aircraft from other airlines if there are shortage problems so that they do not have to suspend services.

Subcommittee for Border Security With Laos Set Up

BK0608142293 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 6 Aug 93

[Text] Supreme Commander Air Chief Marshal Woranat Aphichari, and Lieutenant General Choummali Saingnason, minister of national defense of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, signed an agreement on the establishment of a subcommittee in charge of joint maintenance of peace and order along the Thai-Lao border. The subcommittee will help further improve security along the common border of the two countries.

Vietnam

Spokeswoman on U.S. Ties, Progress on POW's

BK0608121093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 6 Aug 93

[Report on 5 August regular news conference in Hanoi]

[Text] Speaking at a press conference, Ms. Ho The Lan, spokeswoman for the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry, said:

At the invitation of the United States, a Vietnamese diplomatic delegation led by Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai will leave Hanoi for a conference scheduled for 9 August in Hawaii. This is the first conference of decisionmakers from the United States, Laos, and Vietnam

to solve some pending MIA issues along Vietnam-Laos border. Vietnam hopes the conference will contribute to solving the MIA issue in Laos and Vietnam.

Also at this conference, the spokeswoman said: On Thursday, Vietnam officially informed the United States that the three U.S. diplomats can come to Vietnam at any time. She also said that at the U.S. proposal, Vietnam will receive a delegation of the (commerce) subcommittee under the House of Representatives Budget Committee. This 30-member delegation will be led by the president of that subcommittee. It will be accompanied by 11 lawmakers. The purpose of this visit is to inquire into Vietnam's renovation policy, economic development, and possibilities and opportunities for trading and investment in Vietnam.

In addition to these activities, from 19 August to 21 September, Vietnam and the United States will conduct their 25th joint search for MIAs in the areas of Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien-Hue, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, and Khanh Hoa.

Answering Vietnam's goodwill, the United States has recently handed over to Vietnam microfilm on Vietnamese personnel missing in the war. Vietnam highly appreciates this U.S. act and the United States will give Vietnam the remaining microfilm and equipment to help read these films.

Answering newsmen's question on whether U.S. President Bill Clinton will remove the sanction against Vietnam on 14 September, the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said: Vietnam held that the United States understands Vietnam's goodwill in promoting relations with the United States.

'Noteworthy' Developments in U.S. Relations Noted

BK0508160293 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 4 Aug 93

[By program editor Diep Anh]

[Text] Last week saw some additional noteworthy activities related to relations between the United States and Vietnam. Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam and U.S. Secretary of State Christopher met twice in Singapore while attending the annual ASEAN foreign ministerial conference. These were the first meetings between the minister and secretary of state since President Clinton took office in the United States. Also taking place last week were the 24th joint U.S.-Vietnamese search for American servicemen missing in central Vietnam and the visit to Vietnam by representatives from the 17 largest American companies.

Regarding his meetings with the U.S. secretary of state, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam disclosed that he and his American counterpart had exchanged views on the guidelines and measures with the

aim of accelerating the process of normalization of relations between the two countries.

The U.S. side reiterated President Clinton's views that normalization of U.S.-Vietnamese relations depend on a full accounting of the MIA issue. Our side, however, once again affirmed that Vietnam consistently considers the MIA issue a humanitarian question and that Vietnam has cooperated and will continue cooperating with the United States on this issue. Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam also pointed out that the search for American servicemen missing in action has been going on for years and that Vietnam has done its best to solve as many cases as possible. However, the remaining part of this work will be more difficult than in the past. To demand results as in the past is impossible. The results of settlement of the MIA issue also depend on the efforts and goodwill of the U.S. side.

During his working visit to Vietnam as head of a group of representatives from 17 large American companies, Mr. Sullivan, a former ambassador and now chairman of the International Center for Development Policy, told Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet that the Clinton administration's policy toward Vietnam has changed, and that the visit of the group to Vietnam was made at the right time because it would offer American companies an opportunity to get to know more about Vietnam and to prepare for their participation in various projects in Vietnam to be financed by international organizations following the U.S. president's declaration on 2 July.

The former U.S. ambassador expressed regret over various American companies being delayed from doing business with Vietnam and affirmed that the normalization of U.S.-Vietnamese relations will serve as a sound basis for long-term and effective cooperation between American companies and Vietnam—a country that is achieving success in its renovation process with its great potential and intelligent and brave people.

The former ambassador highly appraised the cooperation between Vietnam and the U.S. MIA office in Hanoi during the recent past and affirmed the support of American companies for the declaration made by U.S. President Clinton on 2 July. He also pledged to continue carrying out effective activities to demand that the Clinton administration lift the embargo and improve relations with Vietnam.

Speaking to the group of representatives of American companies at the reception, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet welcomed their visit to Vietnam, considering it a significant visit in the process of improving U.S.-Vietnamese relations. He said: It is Vietnam's unswerving policy to forget the past and look forward to the future in its relations with the United States. In view of this, Vietnam welcomes President Clinton's 2 July declaration. However, that useful and constructive move would be of greater benefit to both countries had it been made earlier.

Public opinion always follows developments in U.S.-Vietnamese relations with interest and considers the progress made by both sides last week as a positive contribution to moving forward more important steps in the relations between the two countries. It is certain that public opinion can see clearly that U.S.-Vietnamese relations are facing considerable obstructive forces. These obstructive forces are those people and political and social organizations in the United States that still strongly nurture inborn prejudice against Vietnam. They do not want the U.S. Administration to lift its embargo against Vietnam, nor do they want to normalize U.S.-Vietnamese relations. They demand that Vietnam comply with their requirements concerning the MIA issue. They try to deny the progress made in the MIA issue and, through this issue, also deny Vietnam's goodwill.

Their views, however, are being criticized by public opinion in the United States itself. Many American war veterans who fought in Vietnam maintain that it is impossible to fully clarify the issue of servicemen missing in action in any war. Specifically, thousands of American soldiers in World War II and the Korean War are still unaccounted for until now.

It is unacceptable to think that normalization of U.S.-Vietnamese relations can be achieved only when the POW-MIA issue is fully clarified. Many other Americans, including senators and military personnel, can see the great efforts and worthy contributions of the Vietnamese side in coordinating with the U.S. side to solve the POW-MIA issue. They welcome Vietnam's move to accept the sending of three American diplomats to Vietnam to supplement the MIA office in Hanoi. They also welcome Vietnam's devotion to coordinating with the U.S. side in looking for the 130 missing American servicemen in the 24th joint search in central Vietnam, which just concluded last week after 27 days. It is the head of the U.S. delegation who described Vietnam's cooperation in this joint search as excellent and outstanding.

We welcome all the positive activities in U.S.-Vietnamese relations. However, we cannot accept those people and forces in the United States who are deliberately seeking to take advantage of the POW-MIA issue—a purely humanitarian issue—to create political pressure.

Government Letter Reprimands Monk Huyen Quang

BK0508111593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 4 Aug 93

[“Text” of Government Religious Affairs Commission's letter to Buddhist Monk Huyen Quang, alias Le Dinh Nhan]

[Text] In response to your letter dated 25 June 1992 addressing our party and state leaders, the government, on many occasions, has assigned cadres to meet you to

clarify various points raised in your letter and to remind you of your erroneous acts. However, you have since repeatedly committed other mistakes.

The Government Religious Affairs Commission, authorized by the prime minister, would like to draw your attention to the following points:

1. After the reunification of the country, during the 1975-80 period, Buddhist organizations and sects in North and South Vietnam which earnestly wished to unify Buddhist churches throughout the country met many times to discuss the issue. Finally, on 12-13 February 1980, a total of 20 venerable Buddhist monks and devotees of Buddhist organizations and sects met in Ho Chi Minh City to set up a working committee for the unification of Vietnamese Buddhist churches and appointed Buddhist Bonze Thich Duc Nhuan acting president of the Vietnam Unified Buddhist Church [VUBC]; Buddhist Bonze Thich Don Hau, secretary of the Ecclesiastical Council of the Vietnam United Buddhist Association [VUBA], as adviser; and Buddhist Bonze Thich Tri Thu, president of the VUBA's Institute of Dhamma, as chairman of the committee. In November 1981 the VUBC held its congress with the participation of 165 representatives of three major Buddhist organizations—namely the VUBC of North Vietnam, the VUBA of South Vietnam, the Patriotic Buddhists Liaison Committee of Ho Chi Minh City, and six other Buddhist organizations and sects. The congress passed the charter and document establishing the Vietnamese Buddhist Church [VBC] and the Credential Council with Buddhist Bonze Thich Duc Nhuan as president and Buddhist Bonze Thich Don Hau as vice president of the VBC.

Buddhist Bonze Thich Tri Thu, president of the VUBA's Institute of Dhamma, and other members of the VUBA at the central level and in localities have positively contributed their great efforts to establishing the VBC. As a result, Buddhist Bonze Thich Tri Thu has been elected chairman of the VBC's Management Council. He has satisfactorily carried out various Buddhist activities.

To sum up, nine Buddhist churches, organizations, and sects have jointly set up the VBC, which has been recognized by law. Since then, the VBC has become a unified, legal Buddhist organization of Vietnamese Buddhist churches throughout the country.

It is necessary to draw your attention to the fact that you have run counter to efforts to consolidate and unify Buddhist churches in Vietnam. You have seriously distorted history by saying that the unification of Buddhist churches in 1981 was the second tragedy after the first one in 1963 when the Ngo Dinh Diem administration carried out bloody suppression against Buddhist monks and followers in Vietnam.

We are convinced that all genuine Buddhist monks, nuns, and devotees at home and abroad will definitely reject your allegation that Buddhist bonzes, monks, nuns, and devotees of the VBC at the central level and in

southern provinces and cities are hypocrites and betrayers of the An Quang Pagoda.

2. Prior to his death, Buddhist Bonze Thich Don Hau knew about the fake letter written by Thich Hai Tang and illegally signed by Thich Tri Tuu. Using this fake letter, you have illegally claimed that you are acting president of the VUBA'S Institute of Dhamma.

Article 3 of the 102-FL Law on establishing religious associations dated 20 May 1957 stipulates that to ensure rational religious activities, those who want to establish these associations must seek permission from authorities. Article 1 of the Vietnam Council of Ministers' directive No. 01 dated 5 January 1989 also asserts that associations that have branches throughout the country must apply for permission from the chairman of the Council of Ministers before carrying out their activities. The fact that you have claimed to be president of the VUBA's Institute of Dhamma is an illegal act. From now on you must stop claiming illegally that you are acting president of the Institute of Dhamma, stop illegally using the seal of the institute, and stop all acts aimed at undermining the unity of Buddhist devotees.

3. Various religious establishments of the former VUBA are still under the management of Buddhist monks and devotees of that association, which has now been integrated into the VBC.

4. The state strictly implements the policy on freedom of religion as stipulated in Article 70 of the SRV Constitution, yet the state shall resolutely deal with elements who take advantage of religion to undermine national unity and damage the cause of national construction and defense. The SRV state will never suppress a person because he/she is a devotee of a religious sect. However, those who violate the law and act against rules and regulations will be dealt with according to the law and no one can protect them.

5. At the 8 December 1978 court trial, the People's Court and the People's Organ of Control of Ho Chi Minh City released a verdict against Buddhist Monk Huyen Quang, alias Le Dinh Nhan, and his confession which said: Hitherto, I adopted an uncooperative stand against the administration. I admit that in the past as well as after the complete liberation of South Vietnam, I committed crimes and erroneous acts running counter to lines and policies of the administration and in violation of state law.

Prompted by its lenient policy, the Vietnamese state sentenced him to two years in prison but allowed him to enjoy a suspended sentence, hoping that he would show repentance and give up his antigovernment activities. Nevertheless, Mr. Nhan has continued with his unlawful activities by distorting events in the Buddhist temple to discredit the local administration as follows:

Buddhist Monk Hue Hien at the Duoc Su Pagoda performed many filthy acts with a number of young women novices. His wrongdoings were denounced by the

local people. Panic-stricken, Hue Hien set the pagoda ablaze and committed suicide. Buddhist Nun Nhu Hien took her own life after finding out that she had gotten pregnant. Buddhist Monk Thien Minh died of meningitis. All these incidents were verified by the Ho Chi Minh City People's Organ of Control based on obvious conclusions.

Nevertheless, Mr. Nhan distorted the truth, claiming that they laid down their lives for Buddhism and falsely accusing the administration of conducting religious repression. How could he deny the truth that his deeds are at variance with Buddha's teachings that the faithful are prohibited from telling lies and that it is a sin to bear false witness against the administration.

6. In recent days, under instructions from Vo Van Ai and other reactionary exiles, Mr. Nhan has performed even more brazen acts in a bid to undermine the unity of the Buddhist Church and oppose the state, especially during the funeral and the first anniversary of the death of the Most Venerable Thich Don Hau. As far as the incident involving the disturbance of public order in Hue City is concerned, he took sides with a number of trouble-makers and took advantage of the still mysterious death of a man in Hue to cook up the story about the so-called self-immolation of a Buddhist follower to clamor that the government was conducting religious repression.

By making use of what he called "human rights violations," he called on foreign countries to boycott doing business with or investing in Vietnam, which is actually an act contrary to the interests of the nation and people.

The Vietnamese state values very highly the patriotic traditions of the Vietnamese Buddhist faithful who have remained attached to the nation for more than 2,000 years. It is our state's policy to show the utmost respect for those who lead a genuinely religious life and adopt a lenient policy toward those criminals who show repentance. We, however, will take stern action against those who stubbornly take advantage of religion to undermine national unity and oppose the people's administration.

Mr. Nhan is strongly urged to realize the truth and Buddhist teachings as well as admit his mistakes and shortcomings toward Buddhism, the nation, and state law, sincerely mending his ways and devoting time to leading a religious life aimed at materializing the noble cause of serving the nation and Buddhism.

Hanoi Buddhist Church Criticizes Monk

*BK0608063993 Hanoi VNA in English 0630 GMT
6 Aug 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 6—The Hanoi Buddhist Church held a meeting here on Wednesday to protest against the unlawful acts of Buddhist priest Huyen Quang born Le Dinh Nhan at Hoi Phuoc Pagoda in the central Vietnam province of Quang Ngai.

Present were the Most Venerable Kim Cuong Tu, standing vice president of the Executive Council of the Vietnam Buddhist Church (VBC), the Most Venerable

Thich Tam Tich, vice chairman of the Sangha Raya Council and chief secretary of the Sangha Council of the VBC, and others.

The participants in the meeting heard the reading of the letter of the Government Commission for Religious Affairs (GCRA) urging Priest Huyen Quang to end his unconstitutional acts. They adopted a petition asking the GCRA not to recognise the title of acting director of the Vien Hoa Dao (Institute for the Propagation of Buddhism), which Priest Huyen Quang has assumed without the consent of the Vietnam Buddhist Church.

Quang Ngai Buddhists Criticize Monk

*BK0608092193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in
Vietnamese 2300 GMT 5 Aug 93*

[Text] On the afternoon of 5 August, the Quang Ngai People's Committee handed the Government Religious Affairs Committee's letter to Mr. Le Dinh Nhan—also known as Buddhist Monk Huyen Quang—of Hoi Phuoc Pagoda in Quang Ngai and issued the provincial people's committee decision regarding the unlawful activities of Mr. Huyen Quang. Immediately afterward, the Provincial Fatherland Front invited Buddhist monks and nuns from local pagodas to a meeting to brief them on the letter and Decision No. 1110-QDUB of the Quang Ngai People's Committee dated 3 August.

All monks and nuns at the meeting voiced their support for the Government Religious Affairs Committee's letter to Mr. Le Dinh Nhan—or Buddhist monk Huyen Quang—and the provincial people's committee's decision regarding the unlawful activities of Mr. Le Dinh Nhan, or Buddhist Monk Huyen Quang.

At the meeting, Venerable Thich Tri Dieu of Long Tien Pagoda, vice chairman of Quang Ngai Town Buddhist Association, said he does not support Mr. Huyen Quang's intention to reestablish the former United Buddhist Church. By this, Mr. Huyen Quang has denied all the past contributions of the Vietnam Buddhist Church. He has made the people suspicious of Buddhist activities. If he had done the right things, Buddhists across the country would have supported him. Because he has done many wrong things, he is not receiving any support.

Venerable Thich An Tuong of Vien Quang Pagoda in Binh Son District has said that Mr. Huyen Quang's activities have brought sadness to Buddhist followers. Venerable Thich Long Thuan of Buu Long Pagoda in Nghia Hanh District suggested that the government deal with those unlawful acts correctly.

Nun Hanh Toan of Tinh Yen Pagoda in Quang Ngai town said that Thich Huyen Quang has done bad things and the government must punish him. We are not going to follow those wrong actions. Venerable Thich Tri Chanh of the Provincial Buddhist Association Temple, chief representative of the Quang Ngai Town Buddhist Association, said the six points stated by the Government Religious Affairs Commission are correct.

Australia

GDP Estimate Rises 1.2 Percent in Jun Quarter

*BK0608093693 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0500 GMT 6 Aug 93*

[Text] Official figures just released show there has been a pickup in the rate of Australia's economic growth. The estimate of Gross Domestic Product rose by 1.2 percent in the June quarter which is more than double market forecast. However, as Belinda Trompe reports the figure is likely to be subjected to major revision.

[Begin Trompe recording] The frequently adjusted estimate of GDP in the quarter put annual growth of 3.3 percent. That's the sharp increase from the previous annual rate of 2.5 percent. Government and private spending were up, making contribution of 0.5 percent and 0.6 percent respectively. However, business investment was weaker which is a long term indication of where the economy is headed.

Economists warned that unless production follows consumption upward then the recovery may stall. And they say the big rise in the quarterly figure may be in part a statistical hiccup and it's likely to be adjusted downward after the federal budget. [end recording]

Fiji

Official Urges India To Reestablish Diplomatic Ties

*BK0608080193 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0500 GMT 6 Aug 93*

[Text] Fiji's Deputy Prime Minister Filipe Bole says India should consider reestablishing diplomatic ties with Fiji. Wearing his cap as minister for external trade and foreign affairs, Mr. Bole said that now the government in Suva had initiated a program to undertake a review of the 1990 Constitution, India should consider restoring links with Fiji. Mr. Bole stressed any efforts to restore diplomatic ties must first come from India.

Trade relation between the two countries were cut after Fiji's first military coup in 1987. In May 1990, diplomatic links were severed after the Fiji Government ordered the closure of the Indian Embassy in Suva and ordered diplomatic staffs to leave the country within 14 days.

Papua New Guinea

47 Rebels Surrender; Road to Kangu Open

*BK0608082793 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0500 GMT 6 Aug 93*

[Text] In the secessionist war on the Papua New Guinea [PNG] island of Bougainville, more rebels have given up the fight. Sean Dorney reports from Port Moresby that at Buin, in the south of the island, 47 members of the Bougainville Revolutionary Army, the BRA, have surrendered with their weapons:

[Begin Dorney recording] Buin has been a trouble spot for months, with the PNG military and their South Bougainville resistance supporters desperately holding on to the town which the Bougainville Revolutionary Army had cut off to all its supplies by air. However, the assistance field coordinator at Buin, (Albert Kanani), tells me that in the past fortnight 47 BRA guerrillas have surrendered and that the road to the seaport of Kangu has been opened up. Food and building materials are now coming in by boat. The blockade on rebel-held areas continues and Mr. (Kanani) says that in the past month 819 civilians have come out of the jungle seeking food and medicines, some of them in pretty bad shape. [end recording]

Satellite Service Establishes Link to Australia

*BK0608092493 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0500 GMT 6 Aug 93*

[Text] Telecommunication in Papua New Guinea [PNG] has switched into modern technology today with the launch of a \$4-million satellite service linked to Australia via Optus.

A spokesman for the post and telecommunication corporation has said Port Moresby's (Ghettou) earth station had been upgraded with a standard-A international telecommunication satellite antenna with unlimited overseas capacity. He said in addition Optus had installed a digital satellite link through their Optus A-2 satellite so calls between Australia and PNG would be made through digital signals.

Optus' international relations manager for the Asia-Pacific, John Bragg, said in a statement that the new satellite service was intended for telephone traffic initially, but would be expanded to carry other services in the near future.

